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Security Council

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The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), 1363 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002), 1452 (2002), 1455 (2003), 1526 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), 1624 (2005), 1699 (2006), 1730 (2006), 1735 (2006), 1822 (2008), 1904 (2009), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2083 (2012), and 2133 (2014) and the relevant statements of its President,

Reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed, and *reiterating* its unequivocal condemnation of Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it, for ongoing and multiple criminal terrorist acts aimed at causing the deaths of innocent civilians and other victims, destruction of property and greatly undermining stability,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization,

Recalling the Presidential Statements of the Security Council (S/PRST/2013/1) of 15 January 2013 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts and (S/PRST/2013/5) on peace and security in Africa,

Reaffirming the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, *stressing* in this regard the important role the United Nations plays in leading and coordinating this effort,

Recalling its resolution 2133 (2014) and the publication by the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) of the "Algiers Memorandum on Good Practices on Preventing and Denying the Benefits of Kidnapping for Ransom by Terrorists", *strongly condemning* incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups for any purpose, including with the aim of raising funds or gaining political concessions, *expressing its determination* to prevent kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups and to secure the safe release of hostages without ransom payments or political concessions, in accordance with

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applicable international law, *calling upon* all Member States to prevent terrorists from benefiting directly or indirectly from ransom payments or from political concessions and to secure the safe release of hostages, and *reaffirming* the need for all Member States to cooperate closely during incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups,

Stressing that terrorism can only be defeated by a sustained and comprehensive approach involving the active participation and collaboration of all States, and international and regional organizations to impede, impair, isolate and incapacitate the terrorist threat,

Emphasizing that sanctions are an important tool under the Charter of the United Nations in the maintenance and restoration of international peace and security, and *stressing* in this regard the need for robust implementation of the measures in paragraph 1 of this resolution as a significant tool in combating terrorist activity,

Reminding all States that they have an obligation to take the measures described in paragraph 1 with respect to all individuals, groups, undertakings and entities included on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, regardless of the nationality or residence of such individuals, groups, undertakings or entities,

Urging all Member States to participate actively in maintaining and updating the list created pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000) and 1989 (2011) ("the Al-Qaida Sanctions List") by contributing additional information pertinent to current listings, submitting delisting requests when appropriate, and by identifying and nominating for listing additional individuals, groups, undertakings and entities which should be subject to the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution,

Reminding the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) ("the Committee") to remove expeditiously and on a case-by-case basis individuals, groups, undertakings and entities that no longer meet the criteria for listing outlined in this resolution,

Recognizing the challenges, both legal and otherwise, to the measures implemented by Member States under paragraph 1 of this resolution, *welcoming* improvements to the Committee's procedures and the quality of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, and *expressing* its intent to continue efforts to ensure that procedures are fair and clear,

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the Ombudsperson pursuant to resolution 1904 (2009) and the enhancement of the Ombudsperson's mandate in resolutions 1989 (2011) and 2083 (2012), *noting* the Office of the Ombudsperson's significant contribution in providing additional fairness and transparency, and *recalling* the Security Council's firm commitment to ensuring that the Office of the Ombudsperson is able to continue to carry out its role effectively, in accordance with its mandate,

Welcoming the Ombudsperson's biannual reports to the Security Council, including the reports submitted on 21 January 2011, 22 July 2011, 20 January 2012, 30 July 2012, 31 January 2013, 31 July 2013, and 31 January 2014,

Welcoming the fourth review in June 2014 by the General Assembly of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288) of 8 September 2006 and the creation of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)

to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system and the Report of the Secretary-General of 14 April 2014 on activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy (A/68/841),

Welcoming the continuing cooperation between the Committee and INTERPOL, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular on technical assistance and capacity-building, and all other United Nations bodies, and *encouraging* further engagement with the CTITF to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system,

Recognizing the need to take measures to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorism and terrorist organizations, including from the proceeds of organized crime, inter alia, the illicit production and trafficking of drugs and their chemical precursors, and the importance of continued international cooperation to that aim,

Recognizing the need for Member States to prevent the abuse of non-governmental, non-profit and charitable organizations by and for terrorists, and *calling upon* non-governmental, non-profit, and charitable organizations to prevent and oppose, as appropriate, attempts by terrorists to abuse their status, while recalling the importance of fully respecting the rights to freedom of expression and association of individuals in civil society and freedom of religion or belief, and *noting* the relevant recommendation and guidance documents of the Financial Action Task Force,

Recalling its decision that States shall eliminate the supply of weapons, including small arms and light weapons, to terrorists, as well as its calls for States to find ways of intensifying and accelerating the exchange of operational information regarding traffic in arms, and to enhance coordination of efforts on national, subregional, regional and international levels,

Expressing concern at the increased use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters, of new information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet, to facilitate terrorist acts, as well as their use to incite, recruit, fund or plan terrorist acts,

Expressing concern at the flow of international recruits to Al-Qaida and those groups associated with it, and the scale of this phenomenon, and *reiterating* further the obligation of Member States to prevent the movement of terrorist groups, in accordance with applicable international law, by, inter alia, effective border controls, and, in this context, to exchange information expeditiously, improve cooperation among competent authorities to prevent the movement of terrorists and terrorist groups to and from their territories, the supply of weapons for terrorists and financing that would support terrorists,

Noting with concern the continued threat posed to international peace and security by Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it, and *reaffirming* its resolve to address all aspects of that threat,

Noting that, in some instances, certain individuals, groups, undertakings and entities that meet the criteria for listing set forth in paragraph 2 of resolution 2082 (2012) or other relevant sanctions resolutions may also meet the criteria for listing set forth in paragraph 2 of this resolution,

Noting the efforts of the Secretariat to standardize the format of all United Nations sanctions lists to facilitate implementation by national authorities, and

encouraging the Secretariat, with the assistance of the Monitoring Team, as appropriate, to continue its work to implement the data model approved by the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Measures

1. *Decides* that all States shall take the measures as previously imposed by paragraph 8 (c) of resolution 1333 (2000), paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1390 (2002), and paragraphs 1 and 4 of resolution 1989 (2011), with respect to Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them:

Asset Freeze

(a) Freeze without delay the funds and other financial assets or economic resources of these individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, including funds derived from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly, by them or by persons acting on their behalf or at their direction, and ensure that neither these nor any other funds, financial assets or economic resources are made available, directly or indirectly for such persons' benefit, by their nationals or by persons within their territory;

Travel Ban

(b) Prevent the entry into or transit through their territories of these individuals, provided that nothing in this paragraph shall oblige any State to deny entry or require the departure from its territories of its own nationals and this paragraph shall not apply where entry or transit is necessary for the fulfilment of a judicial process or the Committee determines on a case-by-case basis only that entry or transit is justified;

Arms Embargo

(c) Prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale, or transfer to these individuals, groups, undertakings and entities from their territories or by their nationals outside their territories, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms and related materiel of all types including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for the aforementioned, and technical advice, assistance or training related to military activities;

Listing Criteria

2. *Reaffirms* that acts or activities indicating that an individual, group, undertaking or entity is associated with Al-Qaida and eligible for inclusion in the Al-Qaida Sanctions List include:

(a) Participating in the financing, planning, facilitating, preparing, or perpetrating of acts or activities by, in conjunction with, under the name of, on behalf of, or in support of;

(b) Supplying, selling or transferring arms and related materiel to;

(c) Recruiting for; or otherwise supporting acts or activities of Al-Qaida or any cell, affiliate, splinter group or derivative thereof;

3. *Notes* that such means of financing or support include but are not limited to the use of proceeds derived from crime, including the illicit cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and their precursors;

4. *Confirms* that any individual, group, undertaking or entity either owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by, or otherwise supporting, any individual, group, undertaking or entity associated with Al-Qaida, including on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, shall be eligible for listing;

5. *Confirms* that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above apply to financial and economic resources of every kind, including but not limited to those used for the provision of Internet hosting or related services, used for the support of Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings or entities included on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

6. *Confirms* that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above apply to funds, financial assets or economic resources that may be made available, directly or indirectly, to or for the benefit of listed individuals in connection with their travel, including costs incurred with respect to transportation and lodging, and that such travel-related funds, other financial assets or economic resources may only be provided in accordance with the exemption procedures set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1452 (2002), as amended by resolution 1735 (2006), and in paragraphs 9 and 61 below;

7. *Confirms further* that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above shall also apply to the payment of ransoms to individuals, groups, undertakings or entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, regardless of how or by whom the ransom is paid;

8. *Reaffirms* that Member States may permit the addition to accounts frozen pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 1 above of any payment in favour of listed individuals, groups, undertakings or entities, provided that any such payments continue to be subject to the provisions in paragraph 1 above and are frozen;

9. *Encourages* Member States to make use of the provisions regarding available exemptions to the measures in paragraph 1 (a) above, set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1452 (2002), as amended by resolution 1735 (2006), *confirms* that exemptions to the travel ban must be submitted by Member States, individuals or the Ombudsperson, as appropriate, including when listed individuals travel for the purpose of fulfilling religious obligations, and *notes* that the Focal Point mechanism established in resolution 1730 (2006) may receive exemption requests submitted by, or on behalf of, an individual, group, undertaking or entity on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, or by the legal representative or estate of such individual, group, undertaking or entity, for Committee consideration, as described in paragraph 62 below;

Measures implementation

10. *Reiterates* the importance of all States identifying, and if necessary introducing, adequate procedures to implement fully all aspects of the measures described in paragraph 1 above, strongly *urges* all Member States to implement the comprehensive international standards embodied in the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) revised Forty Recommendations on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation, particularly Recommendation 6 on targeted financial sanctions related to terrorism and terrorist financing;

11. *Strongly urges* Member States to apply the elements in FATF's Interpretive Note to Recommendation 6, and to take note of, inter alia, related best practices for effective implementation of targeted financial sanctions related to terrorism and terrorist financing, and takes note of the need to have appropriate legal authorities and procedures to apply and enforce targeted financial sanctions that are not conditional upon the existence of criminal proceedings, and to apply an evidentiary standard of proof of "reasonable grounds" or "reasonable basis", as well as the ability to collect or solicit as much information as possible from all relevant sources;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to move vigorously and decisively to cut the flows of funds and other financial assets and economic resources to individuals and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, as required by paragraph 1 (a), and *taking into account* relevant FATF Recommendations and international standards designed to prevent the abuse of non-profit organizations, informal/alternative remittance systems and the physical trans-border movement of currency, while working to mitigate the impact on legitimate activities through these mediums;

13. *Urges* Member States to promote awareness of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List as widely as possible, including to relevant domestic agencies, the private sector and the general public to ensure effective implementation of the measures in paragraph 1; and *encourages* Member States to urge that their respective company, property and other relevant public and private registries regularly screen their available databases, including but not limited to those with legal and/or beneficial ownership information, against the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

14. *Decides* that Member States, in order to prevent Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it from obtaining, handling, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military, civilian or improvised explosives, as well as to raw materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices or unconventional weapons, including (but not limited to) chemical components, detonating cord, or poisons, shall undertake appropriate measures to promote the exercise of vigilance by their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and storage of such materials, including through the issuance of good practices, and *further encourages* Member States to share information, establish partnerships, and develop national strategies and capabilities to counter improvised explosive devices;

15. *Encourages* Member States, including through their permanent missions, and relevant international organizations to meet the Committee for in-depth discussion on any relevant issues;

16. *Urges* all Member States, in their implementation of the measures set out in paragraph 1 above, to ensure that fraudulent, counterfeit, stolen and lost passports and other travel documents are invalidated and removed from circulation, in accordance with domestic laws and practices, as soon as possible, and to share information on those documents with other Member States through the INTERPOL database;

17. *Encourages* Member States to share, in accordance with their domestic laws and practices, with the private sector information in their national databases

related to fraudulent, counterfeit, stolen and lost identity or travel documents pertaining to their own jurisdictions, and, if a listed party is found to be using a false identity including to secure credit or fraudulent travel documents, to provide the Committee with information in this regard;

18. *Encourages* Member States that issue travel documents to listed individuals to note, as appropriate, that the bearer is subject to the travel ban and corresponding exemption procedures;

19. *Encourages* Member States to consult the Al-Qaida Sanctions List when considering whether to grant travel visa applications, for the purpose of effectively implementing the travel ban;

20. *Encourages* Member States to exchange information expeditiously with other Member States, in particular states of origin, destination and transit, when they detect the travel of individuals on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

21. *Encourages* designating States to inform the Monitoring Team whether a national court or other legal authority has reviewed a listed party's case and whether any judicial proceedings have begun, and to include any other relevant information when it submits its standard form for listing;

22. *Encourages* all Member States to designate national focal points in charge of liaising with the Committee and the Monitoring Team on issues related to the implementation of the measures described in paragraph 1 above and the assessment of the threat from Al-Qaida and individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it;

23. *Encourages* all Member States to report to the Committee on obstacles to the implementation of the measures described in paragraph 1 above, with a view to facilitating technical assistance;

The Committee

24. *Directs* the Committee to continue to ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for placing individuals, groups, undertakings and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List and for removing them as well as for granting exemptions per resolution 1452 (2002), and *directs* the Committee to keep its guidelines under active review in support of these objectives;

25. *Directs* the Committee, as a matter of priority, to review its guidelines with respect to the provisions of this resolution, in particular paragraphs 13, 14, 18, 19, 22, 34, 39, 44, 46, 51, 63, 64, 66 and 67;

26. *Requests* the Committee to report to the Council on its findings regarding Member States' implementation efforts, and identify and recommend steps necessary to improve implementation;

27. *Directs* the Committee to identify possible cases of non-compliance with the measures pursuant to paragraph 1 above and to determine the appropriate course of action on each case, and requests the Chair, in periodic reports to the Council pursuant to paragraph 72 below, to provide progress reports on the Committee's work on this issue;

28. *Confirms* that no matter should be left pending before the Committee for a period longer than six months, unless the Committee determines on a case-by-case

basis that extraordinary circumstances require additional time for consideration, in accordance with the Committee's guidelines;

29. *Requests* the Committee to facilitate, through the Monitoring Team or specialized United Nations agencies, assistance on capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures, upon request by Member States;

Listing

30. *Encourages* all Member States to submit to the Committee for inclusion on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List names of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities participating, by any means, in the financing or support of acts or activities of Al-Qaida, and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it;

31. *Reiterates* that the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution are preventative in nature and are not reliant upon criminal standards set out under national law;

32. *Reaffirms* that, when proposing names to the Committee for inclusion on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, Member States shall use the standard form for listing provide a statement of case, which should include detailed reasons on the proposed basis for the listing, and as much relevant information as possible on the proposed name, in particular sufficient identifying information to allow for the accurate and positive identification of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and to the extent possible, the information required by INTERPOL to issue a Special Notice, and *decides* further that the statement of case shall be releasable, upon request, except for the parts a Member State identifies as being confidential to the Committee, and may be used to develop the narrative summary of reasons for listing described in paragraph 36 below;

33. *Reaffirms* that Member States proposing a new listing, as well as Member States that have proposed names for inclusion on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List before the adoption of this resolution, shall specify if the Committee or the Ombudsperson may not make known the Member State's status as a designating State;

34. *Encourages* Member States to submit, where available and in accordance with their national legislation, photographs and other biometric data of individuals for inclusion in INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices;

35. *Directs* the Committee to update, as necessary, the standard form for listing in accordance with the provisions of this resolution; and further *directs* the Monitoring Team to report to the Committee on further steps that could be taken to improve the quality of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, including by improving identifying information, as well as steps to ensure that INTERPOL-UN Security Council Special Notices exist for all listed individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities;

36. *Directs* the Committee, with the assistance of the Monitoring Team and in coordination with the relevant designating States, to make accessible on the Committee's website, at the same time a name is added to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, a narrative summary of reasons for listing the corresponding entry;

37. *Encourages* Member States and relevant international organizations and bodies to inform the Committee of any relevant court decisions and proceedings so

that the Committee can consider them when it reviews a corresponding listing or updates a narrative summary of reasons for listing;

38. *Calls upon* all members of the Committee and the Monitoring Team to share with the Committee any information they may have available regarding a listing request from a Member State so that this information may help inform the Committee's decision on listing and provide additional material for the narrative summary of reasons for listing described in paragraph 36;

39. *Reaffirms* that the Secretariat shall, after publication but within three working days after a name is added to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, notify the Permanent Mission of the state or states where the individual or entity is believed to be located and, in the case of individuals, the state of which the person is a national (to the extent this information is known), *requests* the Secretariat to publish on the Committee's website all relevant publicly releasable information, including the narrative summary of reasons for listing, immediately after a name is added to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, and *requests* the Secretary-General to make all list entries and narrative summaries of reasons for listing available in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely and accurate manner, and notes the unique circumstances of this request, which is for the purpose of harmonizing this Committee's translation procedures of issuing lists and narrative summaries with those of other United Nations Security Council sanctions committees;

40. *Reaffirms* the requirement that Member States take all possible measures, in accordance with their domestic laws and practices, to notify or inform in a timely manner the listed individual or entity of the listing and to include with this notification the narrative summary of reasons for listing, a description of the effects of listing, as provided in the relevant resolutions, the Committee's procedures for considering delisting requests, including the possibility of submitting such a request to the Ombudsperson in accordance with paragraph 43 of resolution 2083 (2012) and annex II of this resolution, and the provisions of resolution 1452 (2002) regarding available exemptions, including the possibility of submitting such requests through the Focal Point mechanism in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 62 of this resolution;

Review of Delisting Requests — Ombudsperson/Member States

41. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsperson, established by resolution 1904 (2009), as reflected in the procedures outlined in annex II of this resolution, for a period of thirty months from the date of expiration of the Office of the Ombudsperson's current mandate in June 2015, *affirms* that the Ombudsperson shall continue to receive requests from individuals, groups, undertakings or entities seeking to be removed from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List in an independent and impartial manner and shall neither seek nor receive instructions from any government, and affirms that the Ombudsperson shall continue to present to the Committee observations and a recommendation on the delisting of those individuals, groups, undertakings or entities that have requested removal from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List through the Office of the Ombudsperson, either a recommendation to retain the listing or a recommendation that the Committee consider delisting;

42. *Recalls* its decision that the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall remain in place with respect to that

individual, group, undertaking or entity, where the Ombudsperson recommends retaining the listing in the Comprehensive Report of the Ombudsperson on a delisting request pursuant to annex II;

43. *Recalls* its decision that the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall terminate with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity sixty days after the Committee completes consideration of a Comprehensive Report of the Ombudsperson, in accordance with annex II of this resolution, including paragraph 7 (h) thereof, where the Ombudsperson recommends that the Committee consider delisting, unless the Committee decides by consensus before the end of that sixty-day period that the requirement shall remain in place with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity; provided that, in cases where consensus does not exist, the Chair shall, on the request of a Committee Member, submit the question of whether to delist that individual, group, undertaking or entity to the Security Council for a decision within a period of sixty days; and provided further that, in the event of such a request, the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall remain in force for that period with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity until the question is decided by the Security Council;

44. *Decides* that the Committee may, by consensus, shorten the 60 day period referred to in paragraph 43 on a case-by-case basis;

45. *Reiterates* that the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution are preventative in nature and are not reliant upon criminal standards set out under national law;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsperson by providing necessary resources, including for translation services, as appropriate, to ensure its continued ability to carry out its mandate in an independent, effective and timely manner;

47. *Strongly urges* Member States to provide all relevant information to the Ombudsperson, including any relevant confidential information, where appropriate, *encourages* Member States to provide relevant information in a timely manner, *welcomes* those national arrangements entered into by Member States with the Office of the Ombudsperson to facilitate the sharing of confidential information, *encourages* Member States' further cooperation in this regard, including by concluding arrangements with the Office of the Ombudsperson for the sharing of such information, and *confirms* that the Ombudsperson must comply with any confidentiality restrictions that are placed on such information by Member States providing it;

48. *Requests* that Member States and relevant international organizations and bodies encourage individuals and entities that are considering challenging or are already in the process of challenging their listing through national and regional courts to seek removal from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List by submitting delisting petitions to the Office of the Ombudsperson;

49. *Notes* the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) international standards and, inter alia, best practices relating to targeted financial sanctions, as referenced in paragraph 12 of this resolution;

50. *Recalls* its decision that when the designating State submits a delisting request, the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall terminate with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity after sixty days unless the Committee decides by consensus before the end of that sixty-day period that the measures shall remain in place with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity; provided that, in cases where consensus does not exist, the Chair shall, on the request of a Committee Member, submit the question of whether to delist that individual, group, undertaking or entity to the Security Council for a decision within a period of sixty days; and provided further that, in the event of such a request, the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall remain in force for that period with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity until the question is decided by the Security Council;

51. *Decides* that the Committee may, by consensus, shorten the 60 day period referred to in paragraph 50 on a case by case basis;

52. *Recalls* its decision that, for purposes of submitting a delisting request in paragraph 50, consensus must exist between or among all designating States in cases where there are multiple designating States; and further *recalls* its decision that co-sponsors of listing requests shall not be considered designating States for purposes of paragraph 50;

53. *Strongly urges* designating States to allow the Ombudsperson to reveal their identities as designating States to those listed individuals and entities that have submitted delisting petitions to the Ombudsperson;

54. *Directs* the Committee to continue to work, in accordance with its guidelines, to consider delisting requests of Member States for the removal from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities that are alleged to no longer meet the criteria established in the relevant resolutions, and set out in paragraph 2 of the present resolution, and *strongly urges* Member States to provide reasons for submitting their delisting requests;

55. *Encourages* States to submit delisting requests for individuals that are officially confirmed to be dead, particularly where no assets are identified, and for entities reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist, while at the same time taking all reasonable measures to ensure that the assets that had belonged to these individuals or entities have not been or will not be transferred or distributed to other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List or any other Security Council sanctions list;

56. *Encourages* Member States, when unfreezing the assets of a deceased individual or an entity that is reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist as a result of a delisting, to recall the obligations set forth in resolution 1373 (2001) and, particularly, to prevent unfrozen assets from being used for terrorist purposes;

57. *Reaffirms* that, prior to the unfreezing of any assets that have been frozen as a result of the listing of Usama bin Laden, Member States shall submit to the Committee a request to unfreeze such assets and shall provide assurances to the Committee that the assets will not be transferred, directly or indirectly, to a listed individual, group, undertaking or entity, or otherwise used for terrorist purposes in line with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and decides further that such assets may only be unfrozen in the absence of an objection by a Committee member

within thirty days of receiving the request, and stresses the exceptional nature of this provision, which shall not be considered as establishing a precedent;

58. *Calls upon* the Committee when considering delisting requests to give due consideration to the opinions of designating State(s), State(s) of residence, nationality, location or incorporation, and other relevant States as determined by the Committee, *directs* Committee members to provide their reasons for objecting to delisting requests at the time the request is objected to, and *calls upon* the Committee to provide reasons to relevant Member States and national and regional courts and bodies, upon request and where appropriate;

59. *Encourages* all Member States, including designating States and States of residence, nationality, location or incorporation to provide all information to the Committee relevant to the Committee's review of delisting petitions, and to meet with the Committee, if requested, to convey their views on delisting requests, and further *encourages* the Committee, where appropriate, to meet with representatives of national or regional organizations and bodies that have relevant information on delisting petitions;

60. *Confirms* that the Secretariat shall, within 3 days after a name is removed from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, notify the Permanent Mission of the State(s) of residence, nationality, location or incorporation (to the extent this information is known), and *decides* that States receiving such notification shall take measures, in accordance with their domestic laws and practices, to notify or inform the concerned individual, group, undertaking or entity of the delisting in a timely manner;

61. *Reaffirms* that, in cases in which the Ombudsperson is unable to interview a petitioner in his or her state of residence, the Ombudsperson may request, with the agreement of the petitioner, that the Committee consider granting exemptions to the restrictions on assets and travel in paragraphs 1 (a) and (b) of this resolution for the sole purpose of allowing the petitioner to meet travel expenses and travel to another State to be interviewed by the Ombudsperson for a period no longer than necessary to participate in this interview, provided that all States of transit and destination do not object to such travel, and further directs the Committee to notify the Ombudsperson of the Committee's decision;

Exemptions/Focal Point

62. *Decides* that the Focal Point mechanism established in resolution 1730 (2006) may:

(a) Receive requests from listed individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities for exemptions to the measures outlined in paragraph 1 (a) of this resolution, as defined in resolution 1452 (2002) provided that the request has first been submitted for the consideration of the State of residence, and decides further that the Focal Point shall transmit such requests to the Committee for a decision, directs the Committee to consider such requests, including in consultation with the State of residence and any other relevant States, and further directs the Committee, through the Focal Point, to notify such individuals, groups, undertaking or entities of the Committee's decision;

(b) Receive requests from listed individuals for exemptions to the measures outlined in paragraph 1 (b) of this resolution and transmit these to the Committee to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether entry or transit is justified, directs the

Committee to consider such requests in consultation with States of transit and destination and any other relevant States, and decides further that the Committee shall only agree to exemptions to the measures in paragraph 1 (b) of this resolution with the agreement of the States of transit and destination, and further directs the Committee, through the Focal Point, to notify such individuals of the Committee's decision;

63. *Decides* that the Focal Point may receive, and transmit to the Committee for its consideration, communications from:

(a) individuals who have been removed from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

(b) individuals claiming to have been subjected to the measures outlined in paragraph 1 above as a result of false or mistaken identification or confusion with individuals included on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

64. *Directs* the Committee, with the assistance of the Monitoring Team and in consultation with relevant States, to respond, through the Focal Point, to communications referred to in paragraph 62 (b), as may be appropriate, within 60 days;

Review and maintenance of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List

65. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular designating States and States of residence, nationality, location or incorporation, to submit to the Committee additional identifying and other information, including where possible and in accordance with their national legislation, photographs and other biometric data of individuals along with supporting documentation, on listed individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, including updates on the operating status of listed entities, groups and undertakings, the movement, incarceration or death of listed individuals and other significant events, as such information becomes available;

66. *Requests* the Monitoring Team to circulate to the Committee every twelve months a list compiled in consultation with the respective designating States and States of residence, nationality, location or incorporation, where known, of:

(a) individuals and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List whose entries lack identifiers necessary to ensure effective implementation of the measures imposed upon them;

(b) individuals on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List who are reportedly deceased, along with an assessment of relevant information such as the certification of death, and to the extent possible, the status and location of frozen assets and the names of any individuals or entities who would be in a position to receive any unfrozen assets;

(c) entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List that are reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist, along with an assessment of any relevant information;

(d) any other names on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List that have not been reviewed in three or more years ("the triennial review");

67. *Directs* the Committee to review whether these listings remain appropriate, and *further directs* the Committee to remove listings if it decides they are no longer appropriate;

Coordination and outreach

68. *Directs* the Committee to continue to cooperate with other relevant Security Council Sanctions Committees, in particular that established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011);

69. *Reiterates* the need to enhance ongoing cooperation among the Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), as well as their respective groups of experts, including through, as appropriate, enhanced information-sharing, coordination on visits to countries within their respective mandates, on facilitating and monitoring technical assistance, on relations with international and regional organizations and agencies and on other issues of relevance to all three committees, expresses its intention to provide guidance to the committees on areas of common interest in order better to coordinate their efforts and facilitate such cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the groups to be co-located as soon as possible;

70. *Encourages* the Monitoring Team and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue their joint activities, in cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) and 1540 Committee experts to assist Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under the relevant resolutions, including through organizing regional and subregional workshops;

71. *Requests* the Committee to consider, where and when appropriate, visits to selected countries by the Chair and/or Committee members to enhance the full and effective implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 above, with a view to encouraging States to comply fully with this resolution and resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), 1390 (2002), 1455 (2003), 1526 (2004), 1617 (2005), 1735 (2006), 1822 (2008), 1904 (2009) 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), and 2133 (2014);

72. *Requests* the Committee to report orally, through its Chair, at least once per year, to the Council on the state of the overall work of the Committee and the Monitoring Team, and, as appropriate, in conjunction with the reports by the Chairs of CTC and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), expresses its intention to hold informal consultations at least once per year on the work of the Committee, on the basis of reports from the Chair to the Council, and further requests the Chair to hold periodic briefings for all interested Member States;

Monitoring Team

73. *Decides*, in order to assist the Committee in fulfilling its mandate, as well as to support the Ombudsperson, to extend the mandate of the current New York-based Monitoring Team and its members, established pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1526 (2004), for a further period of thirty months from the date of expiration of its current mandate in June 2015, under the direction of the Committee with the responsibilities outlined in annex I, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to this effect, and *highlights the importance* of ensuring that the Monitoring Team receives the necessary administrative support to effectively, safely and in a timely manner fulfil its mandate, including with regard to

duty of care in high risk environments, under the direction of the Committee, a subsidiary organ of the Security Council;

74. *Directs* the Monitoring Team to identify, gather information on, and keep the Committee informed of instances and common patterns of non-compliance with the measures imposed in this resolution, as well as to facilitate, upon request by Member States, assistance on capacity-building, requests the Monitoring Team to work closely with State(s) of residence, nationality, location or incorporation, designating States, other relevant States, and relevant United Nations Missions, and further directs the Monitoring Team to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance;

75. *Directs* the Committee, with the assistance of its Monitoring Team, to hold special meetings on important thematic or regional topics and Member States' capacity challenges, in consultation, as appropriate, with the Counter Terrorism Committee and CTED, CTITF, and with the Financial Action Task Force to identify and prioritize areas for the provision of technical assistance to enable more effective implementation by Member States;

Reviews

76. *Decides* to review the measures described in paragraph 1 above with a view to their possible further strengthening in eighteen months or sooner if necessary;

77. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Annex I

In accordance with paragraph 73 of this resolution, the Monitoring Team shall operate under the direction of the Committee and shall have the following mandates and responsibilities:

(a) To submit, in writing, two comprehensive, independent reports to the Committee, one by 30 September 2014, and the second by 31 March 2015, on implementation by Member States of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including specific recommendations for improved implementation of the measures and possible new measures;

(b) To assist the Ombudsperson in carrying out his or her mandate as specified in annex II of this resolution, including by providing updated information on those individuals, groups, undertakings or entities seeking their removal from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

(c) To assist the Committee in regularly reviewing names on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, including by undertaking travel on behalf of the Committee, as a subsidiary organ of the Security Council and contact with Member States, with a view to developing the Committee's record of the facts and circumstances relating to a listing;

(d) To assist the Committee in following up on requests to Member States for information, including with respect to implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution;

(e) To submit a comprehensive program of work to the Committee for its review and approval, as necessary, in which the Monitoring Team should detail the activities envisaged in order to fulfil its responsibilities, including proposed travel, based on close coordination with CTED and the 1540 Committee's group of experts to avoid duplication and reinforce synergies;

(f) To work closely and share information with CTED and the 1540 Committee's group of experts to identify areas of convergence and overlap and to help facilitate concrete coordination, including in the area of reporting, among the three Committees;

(g) To participate actively in and support all relevant activities under the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy including within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, established to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, in particular through its relevant working groups;

(h) To gather information, on behalf of the Committee, on instances of reported non-compliance with the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including by collating information from all relevant sources, including Member States, and engaging with related parties, pursuing case studies, both on its own initiative and upon the Committee's request, and to provide cases of non-compliance and recommendations to the Committee on actions to respond to such cases of non-compliance for its review;

(i) To present to the Committee recommendations, which could be used by Member States to assist them with the implementation of the measures referred to in

paragraph 1 of this resolution and in preparing proposed additions to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

(j) To assist the Committee in its consideration of proposals for listing, including by compiling and circulating to the Committee information relevant to the proposed listing, and preparing a draft narrative summary referred to in paragraph 36 of this resolution;

(k) To consult with the Committee or any relevant Member States, as appropriate, when identifying that certain individuals or entities should be added to, or removed from, the Al-Qaida Sanctions List;

(l) To bring to the Committee's attention new or noteworthy circumstances that may warrant a delisting, such as publicly-reported information on a deceased individual;

(m) To consult with Member States in advance of travel to selected Member States, based on its program of work as approved by the Committee;

(n) To coordinate and cooperate with the national counter-terrorism focal point or similar coordinating body in the state of visit where appropriate;

(o) To cooperate closely with relevant United Nations counter-terrorism bodies in providing information on the measures taken by Member States on kidnapping and hostage-taking for ransom by Al-Qaida and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it, and on relevant trends and developments in this area;

(p) To encourage Member States to submit names and additional identifying information for inclusion on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, as instructed by the Committee;

(q) To present to the Committee additional identifying and other information to assist the Committee in its efforts to keep the Al-Qaida Sanctions List as updated and accurate as possible;

(r) To encourage Member States to provide information to the Monitoring Team that is relevant to the fulfilment of its mandate, as appropriate;

(s) To study and report to the Committee on the changing nature of the threat of Al-Qaida and the best measures to confront it, including by developing, within existing resources, a dialogue with relevant scholars, academic bodies and experts through an annual workshop and/or other appropriate means, in consultation with the Committee;

(t) To collate, assess, monitor and report on and make recommendations regarding implementation of the measures, including implementation of the measure in paragraph 1 (a) of this resolution as it pertains to preventing the criminal misuse of the Internet by Al-Qaida, and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with it; to pursue case studies, as appropriate; and to explore in depth any other relevant issues as directed by the Committee;

(u) To consult with Member States and other relevant organizations, including regular dialogue with representatives in New York and in capitals, taking into account their comments, especially regarding any issues that might be reflected

in the Monitoring Team's reports referred to in paragraph (a) of this annex, such as gaps and challenges in States' implementation of the measures in this resolution;

(v) To consult, in confidence, with Member States' intelligence and security services, including through regional forums, in order to facilitate the sharing of information and to strengthen implementation of the measures;

(w) To consult with relevant representatives of the private sector, including financial institutions and relevant non-financial businesses and professions, to learn about the practical implementation of the assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of the implementation of that measure;

(x) To consult with the relevant representatives of the private sector, in coordination with national authorities, as appropriate, to promote awareness of, and enhance compliance with, the travel ban and the arms embargo;

(y) To consult with relevant representatives of international organizations, including the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the World Customs Organization (WCO), to promote awareness of, and enhance compliance with, the travel ban and the arms embargo;

(z) To work with relevant international and regional organizations in order to promote awareness of, and compliance with, the measures;

(aa) To assist the Committee in facilitating assistance on capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures, upon request by Member States;

(bb) To work with INTERPOL and Member States to obtain photographs and, in accordance with their national legislation, biometric information of listed individuals for possible inclusion in INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices, and to work with INTERPOL to ensure that INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices exist for all listed individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities;

(cc) To assist other subsidiary bodies of the Security Council, and their expert panels, upon request, with enhancing their cooperation with INTERPOL, referred to in resolution 1699 (2006), and to work with the Secretariat to standardize the format of all United Nations sanctions lists so as to facilitate implementation by national authorities;

(dd) To report to the Committee, on a regular basis or when the Committee so requests, through oral and/or written briefings on the work of the Monitoring Team, including its visits to Member States and its activities;

(ee) To report periodically, as appropriate, to the Committee on linkages between Al-Qaida and those individuals, groups, undertakings or entities eligible for listing under paragraph 1 of resolution 2082 (2012) or any other relevant sanctions resolutions; and

(ff) Any other responsibility identified by the Committee.

Annex II

In accordance with paragraph 41 of this resolution, the Office of the Ombudsperson shall be authorized to carry out the following tasks upon receipt of a delisting request submitted by, or on behalf of, an individual, group, undertaking or entity on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List or by the legal representative or estate of such individual, group, undertaking or entity ("the petitioner").

The Council recalls that Member States are not permitted to submit delisting petitions on behalf of an individual, group, undertaking or entity to the Office of the Ombudsperson.

Information gathering (four months)

1. Upon receipt of a delisting request, the Ombudsperson shall:

(a) Acknowledge to the petitioner the receipt of the delisting request;

(b) Inform the petitioner of the general procedure for processing delisting requests;

(c) Answer specific questions from the petitioner about Committee procedures;

(d) Inform the petitioner in case the petition fails to properly address the original listing criteria, as set forth in paragraph 2 of this resolution, and return it to the petitioner for his or her consideration; and,

(e) Verify if the request is a new request or a repeated request and, if it is a repeated request to the Ombudsperson and it does not contain relevant additional information, return it to the petitioner, with an appropriate explanation, for his or her consideration.

2. For delisting petitions not returned to the petitioner, the Ombudsperson shall immediately forward the delisting request to the members of the Committee, designating State(s), State(s) of residence and nationality or incorporation, relevant United Nations bodies, and any other States deemed relevant by the Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson shall ask these States or relevant United Nations bodies to provide, within four months, any appropriate additional information relevant to the delisting request. The Ombudsperson may engage in dialogue with these States to determine:

(a) These States' opinions on whether the delisting request should be granted; and

(b) Information, questions or requests for clarifications that these States would like to be communicated to the petitioner regarding the delisting request, including any information or steps that might be taken by a petitioner to clarify the delisting request.

3. Where all designating States consulted by the Ombudsperson do not object to the petitioner's delisting, the Ombudsperson may shorten the information gathering period, as appropriate.

4. The Ombudsperson shall also immediately forward the delisting request to the Monitoring Team, which shall provide to the Ombudsperson, within four months:

(a) All information available to the Monitoring Team that is relevant to the delisting request, including court decisions and proceedings, news reports, and information that States or relevant international organizations have previously shared with the Committee or the Monitoring Team;

(b) Fact-based assessments of the information provided by the petitioner that is relevant to the delisting request; and

(c) Questions or requests for clarifications that the Monitoring Team would like asked of the petitioner regarding the delisting request.

5. At the end of this four-month period of information gathering, the Ombudsperson shall present a written update to the Committee on progress to date, including details regarding which States have supplied information, and any significant challenges encountered therein. The Ombudsperson may extend this period once for up to two months if he or she assesses that more time is required for information gathering, giving due consideration to requests by Member States for additional time to provide information.

Dialogue (two months)

6. Upon completion of the information gathering period, the Ombudsperson shall facilitate a two-month period of engagement, which may include dialogue with the petitioner. Giving due consideration to requests for additional time, the Ombudsperson may extend this period once for up to two months if he or she assesses that more time is required for engagement and the drafting of the Comprehensive Report described in paragraph 8 below. The Ombudsperson may shorten this time period if he or she assesses less time is required.

7. During this period of engagement, the Ombudsperson:

(a) May submit questions, either orally or in writing, to the petitioner, or request additional information or clarifications that may help the Committee's consideration of the request, including any questions or information requests received from relevant States, the Committee and the Monitoring Team;

(b) Should request from the petitioner a signed statement in which the petitioner declares that they have no ongoing association with Al-Qaida, or any cell, affiliate, splinter group, or derivative thereof, and undertakes not to associate with Al-Qaida in the future;

(c) Should meet with the petitioner, to the extent possible;

(d) Shall forward replies from the petitioner back to relevant States, the Committee and the Monitoring Team and follow up with the petitioner in connection with incomplete responses by the petitioner;

(e) Shall coordinate with States, the Committee and the Monitoring Team regarding any further inquiries of, or response to, the petitioner;

(f) During the information gathering or dialogue phase, the Ombudsperson may share with relevant States information provided by a State, including that State's position on the delisting request, if the State which provided the information consents;

(g) In the course of the information gathering and dialogue phases and in the preparation of the report, the Ombudsperson shall not disclose any information shared by a state on a confidential basis, without the express written consent of that state; and,

(h) During the dialogue phase, the Ombudsperson shall give serious consideration to the opinions of designating states, as well as other Member States that come forward with relevant information, in particular those Member States most affected by acts or associations that led to the original listing.

8. Upon completion of the period of engagement described above, the Ombudsperson, with the help of the Monitoring Team, as appropriate, shall draft and circulate to the Committee a Comprehensive Report that will exclusively:

(a) Summarize and, as appropriate, specify the sources of, all information available to the Ombudsperson that is relevant to the delisting request. The report shall respect confidential elements of Member States' communications with the Ombudsperson;

(b) Describe the Ombudsperson's activities with respect to this delisting request, including dialogue with the petitioner; and

(c) Based on an analysis of all the information available to the Ombudsperson and the Ombudsperson's recommendation, lay out for the Committee the principal arguments concerning the delisting request. The recommendation should state the Ombudsperson's views with respect to the listing as of the time of the examination of the delisting request.

Committee discussion

9. After the Committee has had fifteen days to review the Comprehensive Report in all official languages of the United Nations, the Chair of the Committee shall place the delisting request on the Committee's agenda for consideration.

10. When the Committee considers the delisting request, the Ombudsperson, shall present the Comprehensive Report in person and answer Committee members' questions regarding the request.

11. Committee consideration of the Comprehensive Report shall be completed no later than thirty days from the date the Comprehensive Report is submitted to the Committee for its review.

12. After the Committee has completed its consideration of the Comprehensive Report, the Ombudsperson may notify all relevant States of the recommendation.

13. Upon the request of a designating State, State of nationality, residence, or incorporation, and with the approval of the Committee, the Ombudsperson may provide a copy of the Comprehensive Report, with any redactions deemed necessary by the Committee, to such States, along with a notification to such States confirming that:

(a) All decisions to release information from the Ombudsperson's Comprehensive Reports, including the scope of information, are made by the Committee at its discretion and on a case-by-case basis;

(b) The Comprehensive Report reflects the basis for the Ombudsperson's recommendation and is not attributable to any individual Committee member; and

(c) The Comprehensive Report, and any information contained therein, should be treated as strictly confidential and not shared with the petitioner or any other Member State without the approval of the Committee.

14. In cases where the Ombudsperson recommends retaining the listing, the requirement for States to take the measures in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall remain in place with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity, unless a Committee member submits a delisting request, which the Committee shall consider under its normal consensus procedures.

15. In cases where the Ombudsperson recommends that the Committee consider delisting, the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall terminate with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity sixty days after the Committee completes consideration of a Comprehensive Report of the Ombudsperson, in accordance with this annex II, including paragraph 7 (h), unless the Committee decides by consensus before the end of that sixty-day period that the requirement shall remain in place with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity; provided that, in cases where consensus does not exist, the Chair shall, on the request of a Committee Member, submit the question of whether to delist that individual, group, undertaking or entity to the Security Council for a decision within a period of sixty days; and provided further that, in the event of such a request, the requirement for States to take the measures described in paragraph 1 of this resolution shall remain in force for that period with respect to that individual, group, undertaking or entity until the question is decided by the Security Council.

16. Following the conclusion of the process described in paragraphs 42 and 43 of this resolution, the Committee shall convey to the Ombudsperson, within 60 days, whether the measures described in paragraph 1 are to be retained or terminated, setting out reasons and including any further relevant information, and an updated narrative summary of reasons for listing, where appropriate, for the Ombudsperson to transmit to the petitioner. The 60 day deadline applies to outstanding matters before the Ombudsperson or the Committee and will take effect from the adoption of this resolution.

17. After the Ombudsperson receives the communication from the committee under paragraph 16, if the measures in paragraph 1 are to be retained, the Ombudsperson shall send to the petitioner, with an advance copy sent to the Committee, a letter that:

(a) Communicates the outcome of the petition;

(b) Describes, to the extent possible and drawing upon the Ombudsperson's Comprehensive Report, the process and publicly releasable factual information gathered by the Ombudsperson; and

(c) Forwards from the Committee all information about the decision provided to the Ombudsperson pursuant to paragraph 14 above.

18. In all communications with the petitioner, the Ombudsperson shall respect the confidentiality of Committee deliberations and confidential communications between the Ombudsperson and Member States.

19. The Ombudsperson may notify the petitioner, as well as those States relevant to a case but which are not members of the Committee, of the stage at which the process has reached.

Other Office of the Ombudsperson Tasks

20. In addition to the tasks specified above, the Ombudsperson shall:

(a) Distribute publicly releasable information about Committee procedures, including Committee Guidelines, fact sheets and other Committee-prepared documents;

(b) Where address is known, notify individuals or entities about the status of their listing, after the Secretariat has officially notified the Permanent Mission of the State or States, pursuant to paragraph 39 of this resolution; and

(c) Submit biannual reports summarizing the activities of the Ombudsperson to the Security Council.

United Nations S/2014/409

Security Council

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The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions on international terrorism and the threat it poses to Afghanistan, in particular its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), 1363 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002), 1452 (2002), 1455 (2003), 1526 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), 1624 (2005), 1699 (2006), 1730 (2006), 1735 (2006), 1822 (2008), 1904 (2009), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2133 (2014), and the relevant statements of its President,

Recalling its previous resolutions extending through 17 March 2015 the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) as defined in resolution 2145 (2014),

Recalling its resolutions on the recruitment and use of children and armed conflict, *expressing* its strong concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, in particular the ongoing violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, and other violent and extremist groups, illegal armed groups, criminals and those involved in the narcotics trade, and the strong links between terrorism and insurgency activities and illicit drugs, resulting in threats to the local population, including children, national security forces and international military and civilian personnel,

Welcoming the process by which Afghanistan and its regional and international partners are entering into long-term strategic partnership and other agreements aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Stressing the importance of a comprehensive political process in Afghanistan to support reconciliation among all Afghans,

Recognizing that the security situation in Afghanistan has evolved and that some members of the Taliban have reconciled with the Government of Afghanistan, have rejected the terrorist ideology of Al-Qaida and its followers, and support a peaceful resolution to the continuing conflict in Afghanistan,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding the evolution of the situation in Afghanistan and progress in reconciliation, the situation in Afghanistan remains a threat to

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international peace and security, and *reaffirming* the need to combat this threat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, stressing in this regard the important role the United Nations plays in this effort,

Reiterating its firm commitment to support the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to advance the peace and reconciliation process, including by the High Peace Council and the implementation of the Afghanistan Peace and Reconciliation Programme, in line with the Kabul Communiqué and the Bonn Conference Conclusions, and within the framework of the Afghan Constitution and application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in its resolution 1988 (2011) and 2082 (2012) as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council,

Welcoming the decision taken by some members of the Taliban to reconcile with the Government of Afghanistan, to have no links to international terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida, to respect the constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women, and to support a peaceful resolution to the continuing conflict in Afghanistan, and *urging* all those individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan, to accept the Government of Afghanistan's offer of reconciliation,

Reiterating its concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, in particular the ongoing violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups, illegal armed groups, criminals and those involved in terrorism and the illicit brokering in arms and related material and arms trafficking in the production, trafficking or trade of illicit drugs, and the strong links between terrorism and insurgency activities and illicit drugs, resulting in threats to the local population, including women, children, national security forces and international military and civilian personnel, including humanitarian and development workers,

Underscoring the importance of humanitarian aid operations and *condemning* all acts or threats of violence against United Nations staff and humanitarian actors and any politicization of humanitarian assistance by the Taliban and associated groups or individuals,

Reiterating the need to ensure that the present sanctions regime contributes effectively to ongoing efforts to combat the insurgency and support the Government of Afghanistan's work to advance reconciliation in order to bring about peace, stability, and security in Afghanistan,

Taking note of the Government of Afghanistan's request that the Security Council support reconciliation, including by removing names from the United Nations sanctions lists for those who reconcile and have ceased to engage in or support activities that threaten the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan,

Expressing its intention to give due regard to lifting sanctions on those who reconcile,

Welcoming the briefings by the Chairman of the High Peace Council to the Committee in December 2012 and 2013 as a sign of close, ongoing cooperation between the Security Council and those Afghans working for peace and national reconciliation in Afghanistan,

Stressing the central and impartial role that the United Nations continues to play in promoting peace, stability and security in Afghanistan, and *expressing* its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan to assist the High Peace Council's peace and reconciliation efforts,

Reiterating its support for the fight against illicit production and trafficking of drugs from, and chemical precursors to, Afghanistan, in neighbouring countries, countries on trafficking routes, drug destination countries and precursors producing countries,

Recalling its resolution 2133 (2014) and the publication by the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) of the "Algiers Memorandum on Good Practices on Preventing and Denying the Benefits of Kidnapping for Ransom by Terrorists", *strongly condemning* incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups for any purpose, including with the aim of raising funds or gaining political concessions, *expressing its determination* to prevent kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups and to secure the safe release of hostages without ransom payments or political concessions, in accordance with applicable international law, *calling upon* all Member States to prevent terrorists from benefiting directly or indirectly from ransom payments or from political concessions and to secure the safe release of hostages, and *reaffirming* the need for all Member States to cooperate closely during incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups,

Expressing concern at the increased use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters of new information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet, to facilitate terrorist acts, as well as their use to incite, recruit, fund, or plan terrorist acts,

Recognizing the importance of making the Afghanistan/Taliban sanctions list available in Dari and Pashtu,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Measures

1. *Decides* that all States shall take the following measures with respect to individuals and entities designated prior to the date of adoption of resolution 1988 (2011) as the Taliban, as well as other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan as designated by the Committee established in paragraph 35 of resolution 1988 ("the Committee") (hereafter known as "the List"):

(a) Freeze without delay the funds and other financial assets or economic resources of these individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, including funds derived from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly, by them or by persons acting on their behalf or at their direction, and ensure that neither these nor any other funds, financial assets or economic resources are made available, directly or indirectly for such persons' benefit, by their nationals or by persons within their territory;

(b) Prevent the entry into or transit through their territories of these individuals, provided that nothing in this paragraph shall oblige any State to deny

entry or require the departure from its territories of its own nationals and this paragraph shall not apply where entry or transit is necessary for the fulfilment of a judicial process or the Committee determines on a case-by-case basis only that entry or transit is justified, including where this directly relates to supporting efforts by the Government of Afghanistan to promote reconciliation;

(c) Prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale, or transfer to these individuals, groups, undertakings and entities from their territories or by their nationals outside their territories, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms and related materiel of all types including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for the aforementioned and technical advice, assistance, or training related to military activities;

2. *Decides* that the acts or activities indicating that an individual, group, undertaking or entity is eligible for listing under paragraph 1 include:

(a) Participating in the financing, planning, facilitating, preparing or perpetrating of acts or activities by, in conjunction with, under the name of, on behalf of, or in support of;

(b) Supplying, selling or transferring arms and related materiel to;

(c) Recruiting for; or

(d) Otherwise supporting acts or activities of those designated and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan;

3. *Confirms* that any individual or any group, undertaking or entity owned or controlled, directly or indirectly by, or otherwise supporting, such an individual, group, undertaking or entity on the List, shall be eligible for listing;

4. *Notes* that such means of financing or support include but are not limited to the use of proceeds derived from crimes, including the illicit cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs originating in and transiting through Afghanistan, and trafficking of precursors into Afghanistan, and *underscores* the need to prevent those associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan from benefiting, directly or indirectly, from entities engaging in activities prohibited by this resolution, as well as the illegal exploitation of natural resources in Afghanistan;

5. *Confirms* that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above apply to all proposed uses of funds or other financial assets or economic resources in connection with the travel of a listed individual, including costs incurred with respect to transportation and lodging, and that such travel-related funds or other financial assets or economic resources may only be provided in accordance with the exemption procedures set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1452 (2002), as amended by resolution 1735 (2006), and in paragraph 12 below;

6. *Confirms* that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above apply to financial and economic resources of every kind, including but not limited to those used for the provision of Internet hosting or related services, used for the support of those on this List, as well as other individuals, groups, undertakings or entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan;

7. *Confirms* further that the requirements in paragraph 1 (a) above shall also apply to the direct or indirect payment of ransoms to or for the benefit of individuals, groups, undertakings or entities on the List, regardless of how or by whom the ransom is paid;

8. *Decides* that Member States may permit the addition to accounts frozen pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 1 above of any payment in favour of listed individuals, groups, undertakings or entities, provided that any such payments continue to be subject to the provisions in paragraph 1 above and are frozen;

9. *Decides* that States, in order to prevent those associated with the Taliban and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities from obtaining, handling, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military, civilian or improvised explosives, as well as to raw materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices or unconventional weapons, including (but not limited to) chemical components, detonating cord, or poisons, shall undertake appropriate measures to promote the exercise of vigilance by their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and storage of such materials, including through the issuance of good practices, and *further encourages* Member States to share information, establish partnerships, and develop national strategies and capabilities to counter improvised explosive devices;

10. *Encourages* Member States to consult the List when considering travel visa applications;

11. *Encourages* Member States to exchange information expeditiously with other Member States, in particular the Government of Afghanistan, when they detect the travel of individuals on the List;

Exemptions

12. *Recalls* its decision that all Member States may make use of the provisions set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1452 (2002), as amended by resolution 1735 (2006), regarding available exemptions with regard to the measures in paragraph 1 (a), and *encourages* their use by Member States;

13. *Underlines* the importance of a comprehensive political process in Afghanistan to support peace and reconciliation among all Afghans, *invites* the Government of Afghanistan, in close coordination with the High Peace Council, to submit for the Committee's consideration the names of listed individuals for whom it confirms travel to such specified location or locations is necessary to participate in meetings in support of peace and reconciliation, and *requires* such submissions to include, to the extent possible, the following information:

(a) The passport number or travel document number of the listed individual;

(b) The specific location or locations to which each listed individual is expected to travel and their anticipated transit points, if any;

(c) The period of time, not to exceed nine months, during which listed individuals are expected to travel;

14. *Decides* that the travel ban imposed by paragraph 1 (b) shall not apply to individuals identified pursuant to paragraph 13 above, where the Committee determines, on a case-by-case basis only, that such entry or transit is justified, further *decides* that any such exemption approved by the Committee shall only be granted for the requested period for any travel to the specified location or locations, *directs* the Committee to decide on all such exemption requests, as well as on requests to amend or renew previously granted exemptions, or on a request by any Member State to revoke previously granted exemptions, within ten days of receiving them, and *affirms* that, notwithstanding any exemption from the travel ban, listed individuals remain subject to the other measures outlined in paragraph 1 of this resolution;

15. *Requests* the Government of Afghanistan, through the Monitoring Team, to provide to the Committee, for its consideration and review, a report on each individual's travel under a granted exemption, promptly upon the exemption's expiration, and *encourages* relevant Member States to provide information to the Committee, as appropriate, on any instances of non-compliance;

Listing

16. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular the Government of Afghanistan, to submit to the Committee for inclusion on the List names of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities participating, by any means, in the financing or support of acts or activities described in paragraph 2 above;

17. *Reaffirms* that, when proposing names to the Committee for inclusion on the List, Member States shall use the standard form for listing and provide a statement of case, which should include detailed reasons on the proposed basis for the listing, and as much relevant information as possible on the proposed name, in particular sufficient identifying information to allow for the accurate and positive identification of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and to the extent possible, the information required by INTERPOL to issue a INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notice, and *decides further* that the statement of case shall be releasable, upon request, except for the parts a Member State identifies as being confidential to the Committee, and may be used to develop the narrative summary of reasons for listing described in paragraph 20 below;

18. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, to submit to INTERPOL, where available, photographs and other biometric data of individuals for the inclusion in the INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices, and *directs* the Monitoring Team to report to the Committee on further steps that could be taken to improve the quality of the 1988 Sanctions List, including by improving identifying information, as well as steps to ensure that INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices exist for all listed individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities;

19. *Directs* the Committee to update, as necessary, the standard form for listing in accordance with the provisions of this resolution;

20. *Directs* the Committee, with the assistance of the Monitoring Team and in coordination with the relevant designating States, to make accessible on the Committee's website, at the same time a name is added to the List, a narrative summary of reasons for listing for the corresponding entry;

21. *Calls upon* all members of the Committee and the Monitoring Team to share with the Committee any appropriate information they may have available regarding a listing request from a Member State so that this information may help inform the Committee's decision on listing and provide additional material for the narrative summary of reasons for listing described in paragraph 20;

22. *Requests* the Secretariat to publish on the Committee's website all relevant publicly releasable information, including the narrative summary of reasons for listing, immediately after a name is added to the List, and *requests* the Secretary-General to make all list entries and narrative summaries of reasons for listing available in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely and accurate manner, and *notes* the unique circumstances of this request, which is for the purpose of harmonizing this Committee's translation procedures of issuing lists and narrative summaries with those of other United Nations Security Council sanctions committees;

23. *Strongly urges* Member States, when considering the proposal of a new listing, to consult with the Government of Afghanistan on the listing prior to submission to the Committee to ensure coordination with the Government of Afghanistan's peace and reconciliation efforts, and *encourages* all Member States considering the proposal of a new listing to seek advice from UNAMA, where appropriate;

24. *Decides* that the Committee shall, after publication but within three working days after a name is added to the List, notify the Government of Afghanistan, the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan, and the Permanent Mission of the State(s) where the individual or entity is believed to be located and, in the case of non-Afghan individuals or entities, the State(s) of which the person is believed to be a national; and further *decides* that the relevant Member State(s) shall take all possible measures, in accordance with their domestic laws and practices, to notify or inform in a timely manner the listed individual or entity of the listing and to include with this notification the narrative summary of reasons for listing, a description of the effects of listing, as provided in the relevant resolutions, the Committee's procedures for considering delisting requests, and the provisions of resolution 1452 (2002), as amended by resolution 1735 (2006), regarding available exemptions;

Delisting

25. *Directs* the Committee to remove expeditiously individuals and entities on a case-by-case basis that no longer meet the listing criteria outlined in paragraph 2 above, and *requests* that the Committee give due regard to requests for removal of individuals who have reconciled, in accordance with the 20 July 2010 Kabul Conference Communiqué on dialogue for all those who renounce violence, have no links to international terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida, respect the constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women, and are willing to join in building a peaceful Afghanistan, and as further elaborated in the principles and outcomes of the 5 December 2011 Bonn Conference Conclusions supported by the Government of Afghanistan and the international community;

26. *Strongly urges* Member States to consult with the Government of Afghanistan on their delisting requests prior to submission to the Committee, to ensure coordination with the Government of Afghanistan's peace and reconciliation efforts;

27. *Recalls* its decision that individuals and entities seeking removal from the List without the sponsorship of a Member State are eligible to submit such requests to the Focal Point mechanism established in resolution 1730 (2006);

28. *Encourages* UNAMA to support and facilitate cooperation between the Government of Afghanistan and the Committee to ensure that the Committee has sufficient information to consider delisting requests, and *directs* the Committee to consider delisting requests in accordance with the following principles, where relevant:

(a) Delisting requests concerning reconciled individuals should, if possible, include a communication from the High Peace Council through the Government of Afghanistan confirming the reconciled status of the individual according to the reconciliation guidelines, or, in the case of individuals reconciled under the Strengthening Peace Programme, documentation attesting to their reconciliation under the previous programme, as well as current address and contact information;

(b) Delisting requests concerning individuals who formerly held positions in the Taliban regime prior to 2002 who no longer meet the listing criteria outlined in paragraph 2 of this resolution should, if possible, include a communication from the Government of Afghanistan confirming that the individual is not an active supporter of, or participant in, acts that threaten the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan, as well as current address and contact information;

(c) Delisting requests for reportedly deceased individuals should include an official statement of death from the State of nationality, residence, or other relevant State;

29. *Urges* the Committee, where appropriate, to invite a representative of the Government of Afghanistan to appear before the Committee to discuss the merits of listing or delisting certain individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities, including when a request by the Government of Afghanistan has been put on hold or rejected by the Committee;

30. *Requests* all Member States, but particularly the Government of Afghanistan, to inform the Committee if they become aware of any information indicating that an individual, group, undertaking or entity that has been delisted should be considered for listing under paragraph 1 of this resolution, and *further requests* that the Government of Afghanistan provide to the Committee an annual report on the status of reportedly reconciled individuals who have been delisted by the Committee in the previous year;

31. *Directs* the Committee to consider expeditiously any information indicating that a delisted individual has returned to activities set forth in paragraph 2, including by engaging in acts inconsistent with paragraph 25 of this resolution, and *requests* the Government of Afghanistan or other Member States, where appropriate, to submit a request to add that individual's name back on the list;

32. *Confirms* that the Secretariat shall, as soon as possible after the Committee has made a decision to remove a name from the List, transmit the decision to the Government of Afghanistan and the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan for notification, and the Secretariat should also, as soon as possible, notify the Permanent Mission of the State(s) in which the individual or entity is believed to be located and, in the case of non-Afghan individuals or entities, the

State(s) of nationality, and *recalls* its decision that States receiving such notification take measures, in accordance with domestic laws and practices, to notify or inform the concerned individual or entity of the delisting in a timely manner;

Review and maintenance of the List

33. *Recognizes* that the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan, and the urgency that the Government of Afghanistan and the international community attach to a peaceful political solution to the conflict, requires timely and expeditious modifications to the List, including the addition and removal of individuals and entities, *urges* the Committee to decide on listing and delisting requests in a timely manner, *requests* the Committee to review each entry on the list on a regular basis, including, as appropriate, by means of reviews of individuals considered to be reconciled, individuals whose entries lack identifiers, individuals reportedly deceased, and entities reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist, *directs* the Committee to review and amend its guidelines for such reviews, as appropriate, and *requests* the Monitoring Team to circulate to the Committee every twelve months a list compiled in consultation with the respective designating States and States of residence, in particular the Government of Afghanistan, as well as States of nationality, location or incorporation, where known, of:

(a) Individuals on the List whom the Afghan Government considers to be reconciled along with relevant documentation as outlined in paragraph 28 (a);

(b) Individuals and entities on the List whose entries lack identifiers necessary to ensure effective implementation of the measures imposed upon them;

(c) Individuals on the List who are reportedly deceased, along with an assessment of relevant information outlined in paragraph 28 (c) and to the extent possible, the status and location of frozen assets and the names of any individuals or entities who would be in a position to receive any unfrozen assets;

34. *Directs* the Committee to review whether these listings remain appropriate, and *further directs* the Committee to remove listings if it decides they are no longer appropriate;

35. *Requests* the Monitoring Team to provide an overview of the current status of the information included in the INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices on a periodic basis, as appropriate;

36. *Decides* that, with the exception of decisions made pursuant to paragraph 14 of this resolution, no matter shall be left pending before the Committee for a period longer than six months, *urges* Committee members to respond within three months, and *directs* the Committee to update its guidelines as appropriate;

37. *Urges* the Committee to ensure that there are fair and clear procedures for the conduct of its work, and *directs* the Committee to review its guidelines as soon as possible, in particular with respect to paragraphs 18, 22, 33, 34, 35 and 36;

38. *Encourages* Member States and relevant international organizations to send representatives to meet with the Committee to share information and discuss any relevant issues;

39. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular designating States and States of residence, nationality, location or incorporation, to submit to the Committee

additional identifying and other information, including where available, and in accordance with their national legislation, photographs and other biometric data of individuals along with supporting documentation, on listed individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, including updates on the operating status of listed entities, groups and undertakings, the movement, incarceration or death of listed individuals and other significant events, as such information becomes available;

Cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan

40. *Welcomes* periodic briefings from the Government of Afghanistan on the content of the list, as well as on the impact of targeted sanctions on deterring threats to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan, and supporting Afghan-led reconciliation;

41. *Encourages* continued cooperation among the Committee, the Government of Afghanistan, and UNAMA, including by identifying and providing detailed information regarding individuals and entities participating in the financing or support of acts or activities set forth in paragraph 2 of this resolution, and by inviting UNAMA representatives to address the Committee;

42. *Welcomes* the Government of Afghanistan's desire to assist the Committee in the coordination of listing and delisting requests and in the submission of all relevant information to the Committee;

Monitoring Team

43. *Decides*, in order to assist the Committee in fulfilling its mandate, that the 1267/1989 Monitoring Team, established pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1526 (2004), shall also support the Committee for a period of thirty months from the date of expiration of the current mandate in June 2015, with the mandate set forth in the annex to this resolution, and further *requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the Monitoring Team receives the necessary administrative and substantive support to effectively, safely and in a timely manner fulfil its mandate, including with regard to duty of care in high risk environments, under the direction of the Committee, a subsidiary organ of the Security Council;

44. *Directs* the Monitoring Team to gather information on instances of non-compliance with the measures imposed in this resolution and to keep the Committee informed of such instances, as well as to facilitate, upon request by Member States, assistance on capacity-building, *encourages* Committee members to address issues of non-compliance and bring them to the attention of the Monitoring Team or the Committee, and *further directs* the Monitoring Team to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance;

Coordination and Outreach

45. *Recognizes* the need to maintain contact with relevant United Nations Security Council Committees, international organizations and expert groups, including the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), particularly given the continuing presence and negative

influence on the Afghan conflict by Al-Qaida, and any cell, affiliate, splinter group or derivative thereof;

46. *Encourages* UNAMA to provide assistance to the High Peace Council, at its request, to encourage listed individuals to reconcile;

Reviews

47. *Decides* to review the implementation of the measures outlined in this resolution in eighteen months and make adjustments, as necessary, to support peace and stability in Afghanistan;

48. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Annex

In accordance with paragraph 43 of this resolution, the Monitoring Team shall operate under the direction of the Committee and shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) To submit, in writing, two comprehensive, independent reports to the Committee, one by 1 November 2014, and the second by 1 June 2015, on implementation by Member States of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including specific recommendations for improved implementation of the measures and possible new measures;

(b) To assist the Committee in regularly reviewing names on the List, including by undertaking travel on behalf of the Committee as a subsidiary organ of the Security Council and contact with Member States, with a view to developing the Committee's record of the facts and circumstances relating to a listing;

(c) To assist the Committee in following up on requests to Member States for information, including with respect to implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution;

(d) To submit a comprehensive programme of work to the Committee for its review and approval, as necessary, in which the Monitoring Team should detail the activities envisaged in order to fulfil its responsibilities, including proposed travel on behalf of the Committee;

(e) To gather information on behalf of the Committee on instances of reported non-compliance with the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including by, but not limited to, collating information from Member States and engaging with related parties, pursuing case studies, both on its own initiative and upon the Committee's request, and to provide recommendations to the Committee on such cases of non-compliance for its review;

(f) To present to the Committee recommendations, which could be used by Member States to assist them with the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution and in preparing proposed additions to the List;

(g) To assist the Committee in its consideration of proposals for listing, including by compiling and circulating to the Committee information relevant to the proposed listing, and preparing a draft narrative summary referred to in paragraph 20 of this resolution;

(h) To bring to the Committee's attention new or noteworthy circumstances that may warrant a delisting, such as publicly reported information on a deceased individual;

(i) To consult with Member States in advance of travel to selected Member States, based on its programme of work as approved by the Committee;

(j) To encourage Member States to submit names and additional identifying information for inclusion on the List, as instructed by the Committee;

(k) To consult with the Committee, the Government of Afghanistan, or any relevant Member States, as appropriate, when identifying individuals or entities that could be added to, or removed from, the List;

(l) To present to the Committee additional identifying and other information to assist the Committee in its efforts to keep the List as updated and accurate as possible;

(m) To collate, assess, monitor and report on and make recommendations regarding implementation of the measures; to pursue case studies, as appropriate; and to explore in depth any other relevant issues as directed by the Committee;

(n) To consult with Member States and other relevant organizations and bodies, including UNAMA and other United Nations agencies, and engage in regular dialogue with representatives in New York and in capitals, taking into account their comments, especially regarding any issues that might be reflected in the Monitoring Team's reports referred to in paragraph (a) of this annex;

(o) To cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and engage in a regular dialogue with Member States on the nexus between narcotics trafficking and those individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities eligible for listing under paragraph 1 of this resolution, and report as requested by the Committee;

(p) To submit to the Committee on 1 December 2014 a special written report, in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan, UNODC and the United Nations sanctions expert panels, as appropriate, on specific cases of cooperation between organized crime syndicates, notably groups undertaking hostage-taking for ransom, narcotics producers and traders, as well as those illegally exploiting natural resources in Afghanistan, including precious and semi-precious stones, and those individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities eligible for listing under paragraph 1 of this resolution;

(q) To consult with Member States' intelligence and security services, including through regional forums, in order to facilitate the sharing of information and to strengthen enforcement of the measures;

(r) To consult with relevant representatives of the private sector, including financial institutions, to learn about the practical implementation of the assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of that measure;

(s) To cooperate closely with the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) and other relevant United Nations counter-terrorism bodies in providing information on the measures taken by Member States on kidnapping and hostage-taking for ransom and on relevant trends and developments in this area;

(t) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, relevant representatives of the private sector, including financial institutions and relevant non-financial businesses and professions, and with relevant international organizations, including the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its regional bodies to raise awareness of and learn about the practical implementation of the assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of the implementation of that measure in accordance with FATF Recommendation 6 on asset freezing and its related guidance;

(u) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, relevant representatives of the private sector and other international organizations, including International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport

Association (IATA) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) to raise awareness of and learn about the practical implementation of the travel ban and assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of the implementation of these measures;

(v) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, international and regional organizations and relevant representatives of the private sector on the threat posed by improvised explosive devices (IEDs) to peace, security and stability in Afghanistan, to raise awareness of the threat and to develop recommendations for appropriate measures to counter this threat;

(w) To work with relevant international and regional organizations in order to promote awareness of, and compliance with, the measures;

(x) To cooperate with INTERPOL and Member States to obtain photographs, physical descriptions and, in accordance with their national legislation, other biometric and biographic data of listed individuals when available for inclusion in INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices and to exchange information on emerging threats;

(y) To assist other subsidiary bodies of the Security Council, and their expert panels, upon request, with enhancing their cooperation with INTERPOL, referred to in resolution 1699 (2006);

(z) To assist the Committee in facilitating assistance in capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures, upon request by Member States;

(aa) To report to the Committee, on a regular basis or when the Committee so requests, through oral and/or written briefings on the work of the Monitoring Team, including its visits to Member States and its activities;

(bb) To study and report to the Committee on the current nature of the threat of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan and the best measures to confront it, including by developing a dialogue with relevant scholars, academic bodies and experts according to the priorities identified by the Committee;

(cc) To gather information, including from the Government of Afghanistan and relevant Member States, on travel that takes place under a granted exemption, pursuant to paragraphs 13 and 14, and to report to the Committee, as appropriate; and

(dd) Any other responsibility identified by the Committee.

United Nations S/2014/410

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 June 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 10 June 2014 from the Chair of the International Commission of Inquiry on the Central African Republic (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-55510 (E) 170614

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Annex

Delay in publication of preliminary report

The members of the Commission of Inquiry on the Central African Republic have just returned from a two-week tour of the Central African region. The members of the Commission feel that there are new facts on the ground and also, from what they have gathered during the tour, that, to give a true picture of the situation, certain parts of the report have to be revised.

In the circumstances, the Commissioners would ask for the publication of the report to be suspended in order to allow them to give a more precise picture of the situation in the Central African Republic.

The members of the Commission regret any inconvenience caused but believe that, in the interest of a comprehensive and accurate report, this measure is vital.

(*Signed*) Bernard A. **Muna**
Chair of the Commission

United Nations S/2014/411

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 12 June 2014 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the command of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Following the usual consultations, it is my intention to appoint Major General Luciano Portolano (Italy) as Head of Mission and Force Commander of UNIFIL. Major General Portolano will succeed Major General Paolo Serra, who will complete his assignment on 24 July 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Major General Serra for his dedicated leadership of UNIFIL.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-55502 (E) 170614

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United Nations S/2014/412

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 June 2014 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 12 June 2014 (S/2014/411) concerning your intention to appoint Major General Luciano Portolano (Italy) as the new Head of Mission and Force Commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Vitaly **Churkin**
President of the Security Council

14-55503 (E) 170614

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United Nations S/2014/413

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 12 June 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), established by the Security Council in its resolution 1996 (2011) and most recently extended by the Council in its resolution 2155 (2014).

Following the usual consultations, I should like to inform you of my intention to appoint Lieutenant General Yohannes Gebremeskel Tesfamariam (Ethiopia) as Force Commander of UNMISS. He will replace Major General Delali Johnson Sakyi (Ghana), who completed his assignment in UNMISS on 9 June 2014. I should like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Major General Sakyi for his dedication and effective leadership.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-55504 (E) 170614

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United Nations S/2014/414

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 June 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 12 June 2014 (S/2014/413) concerning your intention to appoint Lieutenant General Yohannes Gebremeskel Tesfamariam (Ethiopia) as the new Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Vitaly **Churkin**
President of the Security Council

14-55506 (E) 170614

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United Nations S/2014/415

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 June 2014

Original: English

Identical letters dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to share my concerns regarding the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (S/2014/401). To begin with, paragraph 2 of the report erroneously accuses Israel of committing "the most significant violation since the conclusion of the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement". This accusation misrepresents events and diminishes the fact that an attack originating from Syrian territory resulted in the wounding of four Israeli soldiers.

I find it disconcerting that a legitimate action taken by Israel in self-defence is described as "the most significant violation" when the Syrian Government regularly violates the Separation of Forces Agreement. In the past five months, there have been more intentional attacks on Israel than in the past 40 years.

Furthermore, illegal Syrian activity has increased significantly in the area of separation. In fact, paragraph 38 of the report offers examples of the violations committed by the Syrian Government, such as "the dropping of bombs onto the area of separation by the Syrian armed forces aircraft" and "the use of Syrian armed forces and opposition tanks during clashes in the area of separation". It is clear that the most severe violations are, in fact, being committed by the Syrian Government.

Second, paragraph 9 of the report states that, "on one occasion, UNDOF observed [the Israel Defense Forces] on the Alpha side handing over two boxes to armed members of the opposition on the Bravo side". At the time of the incident in question, UNDOF officials asked the Israel Defense Forces about the contents of the boxes and were informed that they contained medicine for Syrian citizens who had received medical treatment in Israel and subsequently returned home to Syria. Excluding this vital information from the report misleads readers and implies that Israel was acting in bad faith.

Finally, I ask the Security Council to acknowledge that, in the face of persistent violence and volatility, Israel has acted with considerable restraint.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-55604 (E) 180614

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United Nations S/2014/416

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

Identical letters dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Since 12 June 2014, the citizens of Israel have held their breath and waited to hear news of the Israeli teenagers kidnapped by Hamas terrorists. The three boys, 16-year-old Gilad Sha'er, 16-year-old Naftali Frenkel and 19-year-old Eyal Yifrah, were taken captive while making their way home from school.

The Government of Israel holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for the well-being of the kidnapped teens. The kidnapping took place just 10 days after Fatah and Hamas formed a unity government. Israel has gotten a taste of the bitter tragedy that comes with Hamas in a Palestinian government. Terrorism is what they know, it is what they preach, and it is what they teach.

Rather than distancing themselves from the vile kidnapping, official Palestinian Authority media published cartoons celebrating the kidnapping of the three Israelis (see annex). All those in the international community who rushed to bless this marriage must now look into the eyes of the heartbroken parents and have the courage to take responsibility by condemning the kidnapping.

The three Israeli boys have been missing for five days. I ask the Security Council: When will you condemn the kidnapping? When will you denounce terror attacks against innocent civilians? When will you take action to ensure our boys return home safely?

I call on the Security Council to immediately and unequivocally condemn the kidnapping. It must also call on President Abbas to disarm the military wing of Hamas; halt the smuggling and manufacturing of weapons; and stop the rockets fired from Gaza into Israel.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council. I wish to inform you that an identical letter has been sent to Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-55619 (E) 190614

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Annex to the identical letters dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Cartoon printed in *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida* (official Palestinian Authority daily) on 15 June 2014

Instead of the famous logo of the World Cup 2014, in which three victorious hands hold the globe, together creating the prestigious trophy, the Palestinian Authority cartoon shows a "trophy" of three hands holding three people with their hands up in surrender. Instead of the text "Brazil" below the "trophy", the word "Khalil" is written, which is Arabic for Hebron, a city near where the Israeli youths were kidnapped.

United Nations S/2014/417

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of my Government, I wish to report that the United States of America has taken action in Libya to capture Ahmed Abu Khattalah, a senior leader of the Libyan militant group Ansar al-Sharia-Benghazi in Libya. Abu Khattalah will be presented to a United States federal court for criminal prosecution.

As is well known, the United States Temporary Mission Facility and Annex in Benghazi, Libya, were attacked in September 2012, and the United States Ambassador to Libya and three other Americans were killed. Following a painstaking investigation, the United States Government ascertained that Ahmed Abu Khattalah was a key figure in those armed attacks. The investigation also determined that he continued to plan further armed attacks against United States persons.

The measures we have taken to capture Abu Khattalah in Libya were therefore necessary to prevent such armed attacks, and were taken in accordance with the United States' inherent right of self-defence. We are reporting these measures to the Security Council in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I ask that you circulate the text of the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Samantha **Power**
United States Ambassador to the United Nations

14-55625 (E) 180614

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United Nations A/ES-10/631–S/2014/418

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I regret to have to draw your attention to the critical and tense situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem — the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine — as a result of Israel's relentless provocations and illegal actions against the Palestinian people. Israel continues to carry out grave violations of international law, including the killing and injury of Palestinian civilians by means of excessive force; military raids and mass arrests and detentions, including of children; illegal settlement construction and expansion; demolitions of Palestinian homes and properties, including those belonging to Palestinian Bedouin communities; extrajudicial executions; and incessant provocations and incitement by occupying forces against the Palestinian people and their holy places. These actions have continued and escalated in the recent period, further inflicting loss of life, loss of property and suffering on the Palestinian civilian population, and threatening to destabilize the already fragile situation on the ground.

First, I regret to have to call to your attention the critical and alarming situation of Palestinian political prisoners illegally imprisoned and detained by Israel, the occupying Power, which continues to be grave and warrants immediate attention. As was mentioned in my letter of 5 June 2014 (A/ES-10/630-S/2014/396), more than one hundred detainees and prisoners are participating in a hunger strike in peaceful protest of their captivity and the widespread abuses perpetrated against them by the occupying Power. Many of them, who have now been on a hunger strike for 55 days, are in serious or critical condition, including many Palestinians who have been held in solitary confinement, another unlawful form of punishment flagrantly used by Israel against Palestinian civilians in its prisons.

Serious efforts must be made by the international community to compel Israel to comply with international law, including humanitarian law, specifically article 76

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of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, which clearly defines the rights of protected persons faced with detention by an occupying Power. The international community must ensure that the occupying Power acts humanely towards the peaceful, non-violent prisoners on hunger strike and to cease all illegal practices, including torture and solitary confinement. We continue to call for their immediate release, along with all other Palestinians being unlawfully and arbitrarily imprisoned and detained. In this regard, we welcome the statement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressing concern over the deteriorating health of the Palestinian prisoners and detainees who have been on hunger strike and his call upon Israel to comply with its international human rights obligations in this regard.

I wish to turn your attention to the recent violations against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. In this regard, the Israeli occupying forces have continued to carry out missile air strikes and artillery bombardment of civilian areas in the Gaza Strip in grave violation of international law, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, deliberately targeting and killing Palestinian civilians.

On Wednesday, 11 June 2014, Israeli occupying forces fired a missile at two passengers who were riding on a motorbike, instantly killing one passenger, Ahmad Al-Awour, 20 years old, and seriously injuring many others. Tragically, one of the injured was an innocent bystander in the vicinity of the attack, Ali Abd Al-Latif, 7 years old, who died on Saturday, 14 June, of wounds that he sustained as a result of the attack. Moreover, the military campaign and artillery bombardment of civilian areas in the Gaza Strip continued throughout the night of Monday, 16 June, injuring several more people and causing both destruction of civilian properties and the spread of panic and terror among the Palestinian population in the besieged Gaza Strip.

In the occupied West Bank, Israel, the occupying Power, has intensified its illegal measures and collective punishment directed against the Palestinian people, following an incident, on Friday, 13 June, where three settlers went missing while hitchhiking from the so-called settlement of Kfar Etzion, which is located between Jerusalem and Al-Khalil (Hebron). Since then, the occupying Power has embarked upon a violent and brutal campaign of repression, which has included mass arrests and mass closures throughout the occupied West Bank. In this regard, more than 200 Palestinians, including members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, have been arrested by the occupying forces. Furthermore, as a result of their excessive and indiscriminate use of force, Ahmad Al-Sabarin, 20 years old, was killed by occupying forces as the result of a gunshot wound to the chest during a military raid of Al-Jalazun refugee camp north of Ramallah, on Sunday, 15 June. The State of Palestine condemns all acts that result in the further destabilization of the situation on the ground and the escalation of violence, including measures of collective punishment and the use of force against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in connection with the three missing Israeli settlers. We call upon the international community to call upon the occupying Power to cease its actions of mass closures and mass arrests throughout the occupied West Bank and to cease all forms of collective punishment and human rights violations directed against the Palestinian people.

Moreover, while the Palestinian leadership is doing its utmost to prevent further escalation of the volatile situation on the ground, including helping with the search for the three missing Israeli settlers, it must be reiterated that Israel, the occupying Power, bears full responsibility for the safety and security of those of its civilians that it has illegally transferred to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is the law that governs military occupation.

I must also point to the recent and ongoing illegal actions and incitement thereof by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, their land and their holy places, which are stoking religious sensitivities, particularly at Haram al-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary), which houses the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and Qubbat al-Sakhra (Dome of the Rock). Following Friday prayer, on 13 June, Israeli occupying forces stormed the compound, attacking Palestinian worshippers with stun grenades, pepper gas and rubber-coated steel bullets, and beat worshippers with batons, as well as injured ambulance crews and journalists. Shrapnel from the occupying forces' stun grenades injured 28 Palestinians, including elderly worshippers. We continue to caution that further provocations will only inflame already high tensions and anger among the Palestinian population, posing the threat of a complete destabilization of the situation on the ground.

In addition to the above, Israel has also persisted in continuing with its construction of settlements and the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Just this past week, Israel, the occupying Power, proceeded with plans to further expand settlements by constructing 1,083 settlement units in the occupied West Bank, including in occupied East Jerusalem. This latest provocative and illegal plan comes on the heels of the announcement made last week of the construction and expansion of an additional 1,500 settlement units. We condemn all such provocative and illegal colonization measures, which are physically destroying the basis for the two-State solution, and we reiterate the demand that Israel completely cease all settlement activities and comply with the relevant provisions of international law and United Nations resolutions. We must reiterate the fact that such Israeli policies and actions, systematically and wilfully pursued, are illegal and constitute war crimes under the Fourth Geneva Convention and under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Moreover, in connection with Israel's settlement campaign, we condemn the intensification of measures taken against Palestinian Bedouin communities in the central occupied West Bank, which are being targeted by the occupying Power in order that it may carry out plans for further settlement construction. We call upon the international community to oblige the occupying Power to put a halt to all Israeli measures against the Palestinian Bedouin communities, including by ending its demolition of structures, and confiscation of their property, as well as their forced eviction and forced transfer, which are prohibited under international humanitarian law and human rights law.

The above-mentioned violations compel the Palestinian leadership to call upon the international community, including the Security Council, to uphold the rule of law and human rights and demand that Israel, the occupying Power, cease its military aggression against the Palestinian people, respect their human rights, and comply with all of its legal obligations under international law. The international

community cannot continue absolving Israel of its responsibility for these violations and of its obligations under international law as an occupying Power. The international community must send forthwith the strong, unequivocal message that it rejects Israel's illegal policies, intransigence and constant attempts to completely sabotage any real chance that still exists to realize the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 497 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 5 June 2014 (A/ES-10/630-S/2014/396) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2014/419

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 June 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In anticipation of the forthcoming meeting of the Security Council to consider the situation in Mali, scheduled to take place on 18 June 2014, I have the honour to transmit herewith the following documents (see annexes):

- The Algiers Declaration
- The Algiers Preliminary Platform for the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue
- The joint communiqué of the third high-level consultation session on the inter-Malian dialogue
- The communiqué of the fourth session of the bilateral strategic committee between Algeria and Mali on northern Mali

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sabri **Boukadoum**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-56417 (E) 010714 020714

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Annex I to the letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Algiers Declaration

The representatives of the Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA), the Haut Conseil pour l'unité de l'Azawad (HCUA) and the Mouvement arabe de l'Azawad (MAA):

Having met in Algiers at the urging of Algeria in an attempt to align their views more closely in order to create the conditions for a successful negotiation with the Government of Mali;

Having studied in depth the political, security, humanitarian, economic, social and cultural situation in the Azawad/northern Mali, in the light of continuing developments;

Deeply concerned by the distress of the populations in the Azawad in the absence of a definitive settlement of the conflict whose effects they continue to endure;

Convinced that the tragic events which occurred in the area of Kidal on 17 and 21 May 2014 show that the efforts being made by the international community to stabilize the situation in Mali will be in vain so long as the root problem is not properly resolved, namely, by endorsing the legitimate aspirations of the populations of the Azawad;

Aware of the implications for the stability of Mali and the entire Sahel region if the current impasse continues, especially in view of the increasing involvement of international actors;

Aware also that the settlement of the conflict is likely to advance the struggle against the scourge of terrorism and related activities which are always present in the region, and to facilitate their eradication;

Convinced that the use of force has never fostered a lasting settlement of disputes;

Reiterating their firm determination to ensure that the aspirations of the populations of the Azawad are realized, through dialogue and a respect for the commitments made under the previous peace agreements, which allowed the territorial integrity of Mali to be preserved;

Desiring to enter into constructive negotiations with the Malian Government on a new and renewed form of governance that will:

1. Reflect in law and in fact the geographic, economic, social and cultural diversity of Mali and the specificity of the Azawad;

2. More fully satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the populations of the Azawad, in terms of politics and institutions, the military and security situation, and economic, social and cultural affairs;

3. Take account of the situation as it exists at the moment, locally, nationally, subregionally, continentally and internationally; and

4. Be based on effective and internationally guaranteed follow-up and support mechanisms for the implementation of the commitments to be agreed;

Expressing the desire to unify their forces and promote inter-community harmony within all components of the society of the Azawad;

Affirming the pressing need to advance the settlement efforts which are under way; and

Bearing in mind their respective courses of action;

Have agreed as follows:

1. To work in good faith to consolidate the ceasefire concluded on 23 May 2014;

2. To enter into sincere and credible negotiations with the Government of Mali under the aegis of an outside mediator, at a date and place to be determined as soon as possible by mutual agreement;

3. To coordinate any action they take in reaching a peaceful and definitive settlement with the Government of Mali, with the support of the international community;

4. To continue the consultations they have begun under the aegis of Algeria, within the framework of appropriate mechanisms meeting on a regular basis, with a view to completing the harmonization of their common negotiating positions before launching the dialogue with the Government of Mali.

The movements, acknowledging the credible and constructive role Algeria has played in the efforts to promote and find a definitive way out of the crisis, have conveyed to Algeria their full confidence in its continuing efforts to that end and in its increased involvement in the search for the long-sought definitive settlement of the conflict.

The movements have assured Algeria of their full cooperation and support in its mission, welcoming the contacts it has made in that connection with its partners and urging it to maintain those contacts and if need be modify them throughout the process.

The movements have welcomed with deep appreciation the humanitarian aid offered by Algeria to assist the populations of the Azawad and have expressed the wish to receive further humanitarian aid in order to continue to meet their basic needs.

The movements convey their thanks to the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and to the Algerian people and Government, for the hospitality they have received during their stay in Algeria.

DONE at Algiers on 9 June 2014.

(*Signed*) Bilal Ag **Cherif**
For the Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad

(*Signed*) Alghabass Ag **Intalla**
For the Haut Conseil pour l'unité de l'Azawad

(*Signed*) Sidi Brahim Ould **Sidatt**
For the Mouvement arabe de l'Azawad

Annex II to the letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Algiers Preliminary Platform for the Inclusive Inter-Malian Dialogue

The Mouvement arabe de l'Azawad (MAA), the Coordination des mouvements et forces patriotiques de résistance (CM-FPR) and the Coalition du peuple pour l'Azawad (CPA), signatories to the Preliminary Agreement to the Presidential Election and the Inclusive Peace Talks in Mali concluded on 18 June 2013 in Ouagadougou:

Having met in Algiers at the urging of Algeria in a continuing effort to align more closely the positions of the armed movements in northern Mali so as to create all the conditions for the success of the future negotiations with the Government of Mali;

Having renewed their firm commitment to respect the territorial integrity and unity of Mali, the secular nature of the State and its republican form, in accordance with the previous peace agreements;

Having studied objectively and in depth the political, security, humanitarian, economic, social and cultural situation in the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized by the previous peace agreements), in the light of continuing developments;

Concerned by the unending abandonment and widespread distress of the populations in the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized by the previous peace agreements), in the absence of a definitive settlement of the conflict whose devastating effects they continue to endure;

Convinced that the approach taken by Algeria and the efforts made by the international community to stabilize the situation in Mali will be in vain so long as the root problems are not properly resolved politically without resorting to force, namely, by considering and endorsing the legitimate aspirations of the populations of the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements);

Convinced also that a political settlement of the conflict is likely to advance the struggle against the scourge of terrorism and related activities, which are always present in the region, and to help eradicate them;

Reiterating their firm determination to help realize the aspirations of the populations of the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements), through inclusive dialogue and a respect for the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 2100 (2013) and the previous peace agreements, which have allowed the territorial integrity of Mali to be preserved;

Desiring to enter into constructive dialogue and negotiations with the Government of Mali on a new form of governance that will satisfy the deep aspirations and legitimate claims of the populations of the regions of northern Mali,

referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements), aspirations and claims which in fact reflect the geographic, social and cultural diversity of Mali;

Insisting on the need to put in place effective and internationally guaranteed follow-up and support mechanisms for the implementation of the commitments to be agreed;

Expressing the desire to unify their forces and their activities and to promote inter-community harmony within all components of the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad;

Deploring the tragic events which occurred in Kidal on 17 and 21 May 2014 and addressing their deep condolences to the families of all the victims;

Have agreed as follows:

1. To encourage the efforts of Algeria to consolidate the ongoing dynamic of peace in the region;

2. To create synergies in the approach to a political, peaceful and definitive settlement with the Government of Mali, as facilitated by Algeria and supported and guaranteed by the international community;

3. To enter into constructive dialogue and negotiations with the Government of Mali on a new form of governance that will satisfy the deep aspirations and legitimate claims of the populations of the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements), aspirations and claims which in fact reflect the geographic, social and cultural diversity of Mali;

4. To develop a new form of governance reflecting the specificity and the diversity of the communities in these regions;

5. To promote greater participation by our populations in the management of their own affairs and of public affairs and a greater and more balanced participation by their communities in the various political and administrative organs of the State;

6. To request the Government to speed up the confidence-building measures by freeing prisoners and creating better conditions for the return of refugees once a comprehensive and definitive agreement has been signed;

7. To acknowledge the credible and constructive role Algeria has played in the effort to promote and find a definitive way out of the crisis, and convey to Algeria their full confidence in its continuing efforts to bring about the definitive settlement so long sought by the Malian people;

8. To assure Algeria of their full cooperation and support in its mission and, welcoming the contacts it has made in that connection with its partners, to urge it to maintain those contacts and modify them in keeping with the aspirations of the populations of the regions of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements);

9. To continue the consultations they have begun in Algiers, within the framework of appropriate mechanisms meeting on a regular basis, with a view to

completing the harmonization of their positions in advance of the inter-Malian dialogue;

10. The armed movements (MAA, CM-FPR, CPA) have welcomed with satisfaction the humanitarian aid being sent by Algeria to assist the populations of northern Mali, referred to by some as the Azawad (a term recognized in the previous peace agreements);

11. The armed movements (MAA, CM-FPR, CPA) express their thanks to the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and to the Algerian people and Government, for the generous hospitality they have received during their stay in Algeria.

Algiers, 14 June 2014

(*Signed*) Ahmed Ould Sidi **Mohamed**
Secretary-General
Mouvement arabe de l'Azawad

(*Signed*) Mohamed Ousmane Ag **Mohamedoun**,
pp Ibrahim Ag **Mohamed Assaleh**
Chair
Coalition du peuple pour l'Azawad

(*Signed*) Harouna **Toureh**
Chair
Coordination des mouvements et forces patriotiques de résistance

Annex III to the letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Third high-level policy meeting on the inter-Malian dialogue process

1. In the context of the coordinated efforts by neighbouring countries to consolidate peace and stability in northern Mali, a third high-level meeting on Mali was held in Algiers on 16 June 2014, attending by the following:

- His Excellency Mr. Ramtane Lamamra, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- His Excellency Mr. Abdoulaye Diop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation of the Republic of Mali
- His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Teguedi, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- His Excellency Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration of the Republic of Chad
- His Excellency Mr. Zahabi Ould Sidi Mohamed, Minister of National Reconciliation of the Republic of Mali
- His Excellency Mr. Hamadou Konaté, Minister of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of the Republic of Mali
- His Excellency Mr. Marou Amadou, Minister of Justice, Keeper of the Seals and Spokesman for the Government of the Republic of the Niger
- His Excellency Mr. Dominique Djindjere, Ambassador of Burkina Faso to Algeria.

The meeting was also attended by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), His Excellency Mr. Albert Koenders, and the High Representative of the African Union for Mali and the Sahel and Head of the African Union Mission for Mali and the Sahel (MISAHEL), His Excellency Mr. Pierre Buyoya.

2. Predicated on solidarity with Mali, the high-level meeting provided an opportunity for reviewing the current developments in the country, especially in the north, following the tragic events in Kidal on 17 and 21 May 2014 and their implications for the security, political, economic and humanitarian situation and for the attempt to relaunch the peace process in Mali.

3. The participants considered that because of their gravity, these events underscored the necessity and urgency of accelerating the preparations for the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in such a way as to lay the groundwork for genuine reconciliation among Malians and for lasting peace, security and stability in the country.

4. They also welcomed the dynamic of peace created by the signing of the ceasefire agreement concluded with the mediation of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, President of Mauritania and current Chair of the African Union and with support from MINUSMA, a dynamic that needed to be reinforced by launching the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue so desired by the people of Mali and by the international community.

5. With this in mind, the Algerian and Malian parties gave a progress report on the exploratory consultations conducted by Algeria since January 2014, the aim of which had been to establish conditions favourable to the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the President of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, during his discussions with the President of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, on the occasion of his visit to Algeria on 18 and 19 January 2014.

6. They drew particular attention to the outcome of the consultations that had been resumed on 5 June 2014 with the participation of the leaders of all the movements of northern Mali, which had resulted in the adoption by the movements of the Algiers Declaration and the Algiers Preliminary Platform for the Inclusive Inter Malian Dialogue, on 9 and 14 June 2014 respectively.

7. The two parties welcomed the fact that in these two documents, the six movements of northern Mali had affirmed their determination to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Malian authorities in order to find a definitive solution to the crisis in the north of the country, which would entail endorsing the legitimate claims of the populations of the region while ensuring full respect for the territorial integrity and national unity of Mali.

8. The Malian delegation expressed its deep appreciation for those results, which were an effective and constructive basis for quickly launching, in Algiers, the initial phase of the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue. It declared its readiness to work in good faith to consolidate the process under way in Algiers and the progress already made, and it reaffirmed its full confidence that Algeria would bring that initial phase of the inter-Malian negotiations to a successful conclusion, in accordance with the wishes of President Keita. It called on its regional and international partners to work together to support the approach Mali had agreed upon with Algeria, which it hoped to put into effect with the support of the entire international community.

9. The Algerian party agreed to continue its efforts and to lead the negotiation process during the initial phase of the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue. In that connection, it invited the participants in the high-level meeting as well as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to act to support the developments that would be taking place in Algiers the following month of July. A road map and a timetable would be agreed and confidence-building measures among the Malian parties would be actively discussed and applied, especially with a view to lessening the impact of the attacks of 17 and 21 May in Kidal.

10. The participants welcomed the progress made under the aegis of Algeria in establishing conditions favourable to the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue and they ascertained that there was a broad convergence of views on the guidelines for the agreed approach.

They noted that the conclusions reached by the six movements of northern Mali on 9 and 14 June 2014 respectively in Algiers and those adopted at the fourth

meeting of the Bilateral Algerian-Malian Strategic Committee on 15 June 2014 in Algiers offered a promising opportunity that must be seized without delay in order to encourage the parties concerned to take the path of inclusive inter-Malian dialogue.

They stressed the importance and urgency of conducting the initial phase of the scheduled dialogue in Algiers in accordance with the agreed timetable and modalities.

11. At a time when the Security Council and a Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union were preparing to study the situation in Mali, the participants expressed their readiness to support those efforts, which reflected the objectives the international community had set for itself in Security Council resolution 2100 (2013), the decisions of the African Union and ECOWAS and the relevant provisions of the Ouagadougou Preliminary Agreement, whose goal was to preserve the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Mali and strengthen its national unity.

Algiers, 16 June 2014

Annex IV to the letter dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Communiqué of the fourth meeting of the Bilateral Algerian-Malian Strategic Committee on Northern Mali

1. The Bilateral Algerian-Malian Strategic Committee on Northern Mali held its fourth meeting in Algiers on 14 and 15 June 2014, co-chaired by His Excellency Mr. Ramtane Lamamra, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, and His Excellency Mr. Abdoulaye Diop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation of the Republic of Mali, with the participation of His Excellency Mr. Zahabi Ould Sidi Mohamed, Minister of National Reconciliation of the Republic of Mali, and His Excellency Mr. Hamadou Konaté, Minister of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of the Republic of Mali.

2. This meeting was held pursuant to the decision by the two Heads of State, the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and the President of the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, to establish this mechanism as a strategic tool for follow-up and implementation of any measures the parties deemed likely to further a peaceful and lasting solution to the problems of northern Mali.

3. Considering the situation prevailing in the region, the two parties made an in-depth assessment of that situation [and] of the aftermath of the events which occurred in Kidal on 17 and 21 May 2014 and their security, political and humanitarian repercussions.

4. The two parties considered that because of their gravity, those events underscored the necessity and urgency of accelerating the preparations for the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in such a way as to lay the groundwork for genuine reconciliation among Malians and for lasting peace, security and stability in the country.

5. The Algerian party gave the Malian party a progress report on the exploratory consultations it had been conducting since January 2014, the aim of which was to establish conditions favourable to the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in keeping with the guidelines established by the two Heads of State on the occasion of the visit of the President of Mali to Algeria on 18 and 19 January 2014.

6. The Algerian party drew particular attention to the outcome of the consultations that had been resumed on 5 June 2014 with the participation of all the leaders of all the movements of northern Mali, which had resulted in the adoption by the movements of the Algiers Declaration and the Algiers Preliminary Platform for the Inclusive Inter-Malian Dialogue, on 9 and 14 June respectively.

7. The Algerian party pointed out that in these two documents, the six movements of northern Mali had affirmed their determination to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Malian authorities in order to find a definitive solution to the crisis in the northern region of the country, by endorsing the

legitimate claims of the populations of the region while ensuring full respect for the territorial integrity and national unity of Mali.

8. The Malian party expressed its deep appreciation for those results, which were an effective and constructive basis for quickly launching, in Algiers, the initial phase of the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue.

9. The Malian party declared its readiness to work in good faith to consolidate the process under way in Algiers and the progress already made, and it reaffirmed its full confidence that Algeria would bring that new phase to a successful conclusion, in accordance with the wishes of President Keita.

10. The two parties accordingly proceeded to consider a series of proposals for fostering a climate of confidence among the parties concerned, through the implementation of measures to be agreed which would facilitate the discussions in accordance with an agreed timetable and methodology.

11. The two parties stressed the importance of conducting that new phase in conjunction with the regional and international partners they invited to support their efforts, which would be in strict accordance with the objectives established by the international community for preserving the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Mali and reinforcing its national unity.

12. The two parties decided to hold the fifth meeting of the Committee in Bamako, during the month of July 2014.

DONE at Algiers on 16 June 2014.

For the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria:

(*Signed*) Ramtane **Lamamra**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Mali:

(*Signed*) Abdoulaye **Diop**
Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration
and International Cooperation

United Nations A/68/910–S/2014/420*

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 37
The situation in Afghanistan

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/11 and Security Council resolution 2145 (2014), by which I was requested to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan.

2. The report provides an update on the activities of the United Nations in Afghanistan, including significant humanitarian, development and human rights efforts, since my previous report was issued on 7 March 2014 (A/68/789-S/2014/163). It also provides a summary of key political and security developments and regional and international events related to Afghanistan.

II. Relevant developments

3. The presidential and provincial council elections dominated the political, security and economic environment of Afghanistan during the reporting period. A stable presidential succession will represent the first democratic transition of executive authority in the nation's history. The contest has so far been hard-fought but respectful of the legal framework and mandated authorities of electoral institutions. The enthusiasm with which voters participated in the first round of polling on 5 April was widely seen as a demonstration of support for the democratic process, even as risks and challenges remain. The second round of polling took place on 14 June, after the end of the reporting period, and its final results are scheduled to be announced on 22 July. The President of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, has publicly stated that the inauguration date foreseen for his successor is 2 August.

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4. Announcements during the period under review have provided greater clarity on the timeline of the ongoing international military drawdown, with the United States of America seeking to conclude its military presence by the end of 2016. All such planning, however, remains contingent on the establishment of the necessary legal frameworks with the next Afghan administration.

5. Both my Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and my Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator visited Afghanistan during the reporting period, the latter amid landslides and flooding, which were another stark reminder of the country's chronic vulnerabilities.

A. Political

6. The sixteenth legislative term of the National Assembly was inaugurated on 15 March. In addressing the Assembly at its opening session for the last time, President Karzai emphasized that government authorities and security institutions would do everything possible to ensure that the upcoming presidential and provincial council elections would be credible and free of official interference. The President was adamant that the formal commencement of a peace process was a precondition to signing a bilateral security agreement between Afghanistan and the United States, and called on political leaders to preserve national unity, freedom of expression and women's rights. One of the first acts of the lower house of the National Assembly (Wolesi Jirga) was to confirm President Karzai's appointment of the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mohammad Younus Qanooni, to the post of First Vice-President following the death, on 9 March, of Marshal Mohammad Qasim Fahim.

7. Technical preparations for the elections were completed on schedule. On 28 March, the Independent Election Commission's voter registration top-up exercise was concluded, with 3,746,755 new voter cards issued, of which 35 per cent to women. An attack by insurgents on the Commission's Kabul headquarters on 29 March interrupted work only briefly, as the most sensitive materials had already been distributed to the provinces. The campaign period in February and March was marked by large-scale rallies and, for the first time, a series of television debates between presidential candidates. These debates, together with local mobilization efforts around the provincial council polls, were seen to have contributed to civic awareness and voter turnout. All the campaign teams addressed women's issues as part of their platforms; three of the teams included female vice-presidential candidates on the ticket. During the final days of the campaign, 3 of the 11 presidential candidates withdrew: Abdul Qayum Karzai, Abdul Rahim Wardak and Sardar Mohammad Nader Naim. In the course of an assessment of the eligibility of provincial council candidates, the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission disqualified a further 114 candidates, mainly for not meeting age and education criteria. After resignations and withdrawals, the final number of aspirants in the provincial council elections was 2,591, of whom 296 were women.

8. Afghan security institutions oversaw the planning and implementation of election security, with the Ministry of the Interior in the lead. Two major operations, involving over 35,000 personnel, were conducted in the south and south-east of Afghanistan at the beginning of March as a prelude to the countrywide security

operation for the first round of voting. In order to better secure women's participation, the Ministry of the Interior trained 581 women police officers and 2,245 civilians and recruited 13,690 "female searchers" (women who search women voters) for polling day. In March and April, the Taliban issued a number of statements declaring its intent to violently disrupt the electoral process and threatening participants. Complex attacks on the Kabul and Laghman provincial offices of the Independent Election Commission, on 23 and 26 March respectively, were followed by the assault on the Commission's headquarters. The Kabul provincial office attack killed three civilians and injured four more, including election workers and a provincial council candidate.

9. On 5 April, voting took place in 6,082 polling centres (the total number of polling stations was 19,784). The Commission reported that 15 per cent of the 7,173 polling centres that had been planned originally were closed owing to security concerns or logistical issues, including 341 that were unable to open on election day. There were 7,018,849 votes recorded on election day, of which 36 per cent in women's polling stations. The most pressing technical issue on election day proved to be ballot allocation. The higher-than-expected turnout in some areas, mainly urban centres, hignlighted the difficulties in accurately predicting population movements in the absence of polling centre-specific voter lists. Contingency ballots, pre-positioned by the Commission as a precautionary measure, were released in all 34 provinces. Overall, the Afghan public and media reacted positively to the performance of the national security forces, which was widely praised by Afghan and international partners.

10. On 26 April, the Commission released the preliminary results of the presidential elections, the final outcome being subject to the resolution of objections raised during a so-called "complaints period". The Complaints Commission's adjudication process included the holding of five open sessions in the presence of the media and the submission of its decisions on 14 May. The Commission released the final results, based on 6,604,546 votes assessed as valid, on 15 May. The final results changed little from the preliminary outcomes: Abdullah Abdullah (45 per cent); Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai (31.6 per cent); Zalmai Rassul (11.4 per cent); Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf (7.3 per cent); Qutbudin Hilal (2.8 per cent); Agha Sherzai (1.6 per cent); Daud Sultanzoy (0.5 per cent); and Hedayat Amin Arsala (0.2 per cent). With no candidate gaining more than 50 per cent of the vote, a second round of polling between the two front-runners is required under the Constitution. On the same day, the Commission published the electoral timetable for the run-off.

11. On 15 May, Mr. Abdullah and Mr. Ghani held separate press conferences announcing their respective intention to contest the run-off poll and thanking the citizens of Afghanistan for participating. Both candidates demanded technical improvements by the electoral management bodies prior to the second round. Political realignment continued throughout the period, with, for example, former candidates Mr. Rassul and Mr. Sherzai, as well as Mr. Sayyaf's running mate, Mohammad Ismail Khan, publicly backing Mr. Abdullah. Mr. Ghani received the support of Mr. Sultanzoy and of Mr. Rassul's first vice-presidential nominee, Ahmad Zia Massoud.

12. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's armed opposition group, Hezb-e Islami, announced on 10 May that it would boycott the second round of voting given both front-runners' commitment to signing a bilateral security agreement with the United States. The

Hezb-e Islami leadership, however, stated that the group would not target the electoral process or citizens who participated in voting. The Taliban continued to publicly condemn the elections: in a statement dated 2 June, it again threatened electoral workers and polling sites and warned citizens to avoid polling locations.

13. On 20 May, preliminary results for the 458 seats on the 34 provincial councils were released by the Commission. A total of 588 polling stations had been disqualified. Of the preliminary winners, 97 were women (legislation requires that 20 per cent of provincial council seats throughout the country be held by women). The Complaints Commission held open hearings between 31 May and 5 June. Owing to the large volume of complaints — 1,283 relating to the election and 1,635 to the preliminary results — the announcement of final results, originally scheduled for 7 June, was delayed.

14. The transparency of elections was enhanced by the presence of observers and party and candidate agents. Observation efforts largely depended on 67 national organizations, which sent 14,585 observers across the country for the first round. In addition, 362,780 party and candidate agents were registered, for the first round, of whom 23 per cent were women. International observers, while modest in number, supported the process with technical assistance and expertise.

15. Within its mandated support role, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) maintained close contact with candidates, campaign teams and the electoral institutions. Throughout the electoral process, and notably amid a rise in rhetoric prior to the release of the preliminary tally and final results, my Special Representative for Afghanistan, Ján Kubiš, urged all parties to act responsibly and respect the two mandated electoral bodies, which should, in turn, cooperate closely in ensuring transparent decision-making and a timely, credible process. Through the second phase of the electoral support project entitled "Enhancing legal and electoral capacity for tomorrow" (ELECT II), the United Nations continued to provide technical and financial assistance to the electoral bodies.

16. Preparations for a second round of voting remained on track, although, with the launch of the campaign period on 22 May, the two candidates' rhetoric was noticeably sharper than during the first round. UNAMA continued to encourage a respectful campaign in the interests of national unity. The Commission's distribution of ballot papers and sensitive material to the provinces was completed by 25 May and district-level delivery commenced on 2 June. A "lessons learned" exercise based on experience gained during the first round sought to ensure improvements in the administration of the process, as did the blacklisting of some 5,000 (of 100,000) electoral workers for suspicion of engagement in irregularities. On 4 June, following the conduct of security risk assessments by the Ministry of the Interior, the Commission announced that it planned to open 6,272 polling centres with a total of 22,879 polling stations. Security planning for the second round included a one-day meeting, hosted by the Minister of the Interior, of all provincial police chiefs in Kabul on 21 May and six regional security briefs for senior security and electoral personnel and provincial governors from 3 to 7 June. On 6 June, two suicide bombers attacked the convoy of Mr. Abdullah in the west of Kabul. The presidential candidate was unharmed, although 13 civilians were killed and 43 were injured in the blasts, which took place on a busy road in the capital.

17. UNAMA continued to promote local dialogue and peace initiatives that were focused, during the reporting period, on managing tensions and on potential fault lines around the elections. Ten initiatives have been launched in 2014 covering 12 provinces. They have included forums to promote dialogue among diverse local political stakeholders from Farah, Herat, Kandahar, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nuristan and Paktya provinces. The role of ulema in supporting the peaceful conduct of elections through gatherings of clerics from Balkh, Kapisa and Samangan provinces was also recognized. Separately, between 12 and 15 May, at the request of the parties, UNAMA hosted a traditional assembly of elders in Jalalabad to seek an end to a century-old conflict between two tribes in the remote neighbouring province of Nuristan. More than 70 representatives agreed to stop planting landmines and explosives, to rebuild homes destroyed in the conflict and to establish a mechanism by which to resolve land and property disputes. UNAMA also continued to provide assistance for the Afghan People's Dialogue on Peace, a civil society initiative that facilitated the finalization, in April, of 30 provincial "road maps" for peace. On 10 June, a report summarizing the main findings of the second phase of the initiative was launched. Proposed conflict-mitigation measures included tackling corruption, which is widespread, including through reform and oversight of local institutions, disempowering and disarming militias, promoting human rights, equitable development and access to services, and making the peace process more inclusive.

18. There were no significant developments with regard to the peace process during the reporting period. A former Taliban-era official, Agha Jan Mutasim, who had sought to launch an "intra-Afghan dialogue" in the United Arab Emirates, was said by Afghan authorities on 14 April to be missing. He subsequently arrived in Kabul and indicated that he would soon seek to restart his efforts. Shifts within the Taliban movement during the period appear to have resulted in more hard-line elements coming to the fore, including through the replacement of the head of the Taliban's Military Commission. In a statement dated 26 April, the Taliban confirmed the move while denying speculation that it was related to dissatisfaction at the failure to disrupt the first round of polling to a meaningful extent. On 31 May, it was announced that a United States soldier in Taliban captivity had been released in exchange for five senior Taliban detainees. In a statement, the President of the United States, Barack Obama, hailed the exchange as having the potential to "open the door for broader discussions among Afghans about the future of their country by building confidence". On 1 June, a statement purportedly from the leader of the Taliban, Mullah Mohammad Omar, welcomed the transfer of the detainees to Qatar. On 2 June, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan published a statement expressing dissatisfaction with the manner of the release. Separately, the joint secretariat of the High Peace Council reported that as at 25 May 8,551 individuals in 33 provinces had joined the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme, which is aimed at drawing lower-level fighters off the battlefield.

B. Security

19. Between 1 March and 31 May, the United Nations recorded 5,864 security-related incidents relevant to the work, mobility and safety of civilian actors in Afghanistan, particularly those events that affect the delivery of mandated activities and programmes. That represented an increase of 22 per cent over the same period

in 2013, an increase of 45 per cent over 2012 and a decrease of 6 per cent over 2011, the most violent year since the fall of the Taliban regime. Of the total number of incidents, 23 involved United Nations personnel, mostly national staff, 11 were incidents of intimidation and 1 consisted of an abduction. The high number of security incidents is mainly attributed to the electoral period, given clearance operations by Afghan security forces and attempts by the Taliban to disrupt the electoral process. On 5 April, polling day, the United Nations recorded 476 security incidents nationwide, of which at least 271 were directly related to polling, compared with 488 recorded on the day of the 2010 parliamentary elections and 310 on the day of the 2009 presidential elections. The east was the site of 30 per cent of the incidents on 5 April while the south reported unprecedentedly low levels of violence. Tactics differed from previous elections, as there were fewer incidents of indirect fire and no successful suicide attacks.

20. Armed clashes accounted for 45 per cent of security incidents between 1 March and 31 May and improvised explosive devices for 29 per cent. In seeking to exert influence through fear and intimidation, targeted killings continued at a high level. Between 1 March and 31 May, 229 assassinations and failed assassination attempts were recorded, which represents an increase of 32 per cent over the same period in 2013. There was also a major spike in suicide attacks in the run-up to the first day of polling, with 12 incidents, including five in Kabul, recorded between 20 March and 3 April. In total, there were 32 suicide attacks between 1 March and 31 May — up from 25 in the same period in 2013. High-profile incidents in the period included a complex assault on a luxury hotel where families were celebrating Nawruz (the Afghan New Year) on 20 March, in which 10 civilians died, and the attack on the Indian consulate in the western city of Herat in the early hours of 24 May, where the rapid actions of security personnel helped prevent fatalities. The targeted killing of foreigners, by a variety of perpetrators, was a prominent feature of the period. On 11 March, a Swedish journalist was shot dead in the diplomatic area of the capital by parties unknown; on 4 April in Khost, a police officer shot two journalists, one of whom, a German photographer, fatally; and, on 24 April, three foreign citizens were killed when a police officer opened fire at a hospital in the capital.

21. Incidents in the south, south-east and east of the country accounted for 3,917 of the total number of incidents during the period. Particularly notable has been the increase in incidents in the east, where several Al-Qaida affiliates, including Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, Lashkar-i-Jhangvi and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, regularly carry out attacks on Afghan security forces in parallel to the efforts of the Taliban and armed wings of Hezb-e Islami. On 8 May, the Taliban announced in a statement that its 2014 spring operation, "Khaibar", would target senior government officials, members of parliament, security officials, attorneys and judges that prosecute "mujahideen", as well as "gatherings of foreign invading forces, their diplomatic centres and convoys". The announced launch date, 12 May, saw a complex assault on the Department of Justice in Jalalabad in which eight civilians were killed. On 20 May, in the north-eastern province of Badakhshan, around 300 insurgents captured the Yamgan district administrative centre. The Government regained control of the centre on 23 May. The attack was perceived to have been a show of strength at the start of the fighting season, with local power struggles over access to resources fuelling a complex, fluid conflict.

22. As at 11 May, the Afghan National Army numbered 185,131 personnel, including 7,013 members of the air force, against a ceiling of 187,000. Overall attrition rates are understood to have decreased somewhat, while re-enlistment rates remain low. With only 1,138 female personnel, the Ministry of Defence continued its efforts to recruit women, including through television advertisements. The challenges encountered included a lack of female recruiters and facilities for women, a risk of abuse and cultural or family prohibitions. The capabilities and confidence of the armed forces to plan and conduct operations have increased, but issues remain regarding coordination with other agencies and medical evacuation and airlift capabilities. With respect to policing, the United Nations-administered Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan supported 145,939 police personnel and 5,600 Central Prison Department guards as at the end of May. Women accounted for 1,741 police officers and 273 guards. The police academy's training school for countering improvised explosive devices and disposing of explosive ordnances, which opened in January, had trained 100 people and established 88 teams countrywide by the end of May.

23. Separately, the security initiative of the Afghan Local Police continued to expand in the south-east and north-east of the country. As at 29 May, 26,698 personnel of an authorized total of 30,000 were present in 149 districts in 29 provinces; the balance of 3,302 personnel were either preparing for or in training. UNAMA continued to document allegations of human rights violations and impunity involving the Afghan Local Police, particularly in Kunduz Province. In other locations, the police performed to the satisfaction of the local population, including by providing security for election day.

24. On 27 May, President Obama set forth plans for future United States troop levels in Afghanistan, which currently stand at around 32,000, down from a peak of 100,000. At the beginning of 2015, there should be approximately 9,800 troops, to be reduced by half during the year and to be consolidated at Bagram military base, outside Kabul. By the end of 2016, a normal embassy presence with a security assistance component is planned. President Karzai released a statement the following day welcoming the decision, while a number of members of the National Assembly and civil society expressed concern about the readiness of Afghan security forces and the impact on the broader international commitment to Afghanistan. The Taliban, in a statement dated 30 May, dismissed the move as an "extension of occupation until 2016". On 4 June, a meeting of defence ministers at the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) reviewed the progress made by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), the mandate of which will end on 31 December 2014. A follow-up training, advice and assistance mission is planned, although it has been emphasized that international military commitments remain contingent on reaching agreement on the necessary legal frameworks.

C. Regional cooperation

25. During the reporting period, Afghanistan continued to actively engage with its neighbours and promote regional cooperation. China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan were among the countries in the region to welcome the conduct of the first round of polling and to recognize the importance of a smooth political transition in Afghanistan for regional stability.

26. On 26 March, the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon, met with President Karzai in Kabul, where several agreements on cooperation were concluded, including between the ministries of the interior. On 27 March, on the sidelines of the regional Nawruz festivities hosted by President Karzai, the presidents of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan and Tajikistan held a quadrilateral summit. In a joint statement, they reiterated the importance of constructive regional cooperation. This included support for ongoing Afghan-led regional efforts within the framework of the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan, as well as infrastructure projects to strengthen regional connectivity. The same day, the World Bank Group approved $526.5 million in grants and credit financing for the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000). This will put in place, in Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Tajikistan, the infrastructure and the commercial and institutional arrangements required for a sustainable electricity trade.

27. On 19 May, the Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan, General Raheel Sharif, visited Kabul to attend the thirty-seventh trilateral security meeting between the heads of the Afghan and Pakistani armies and NATO. In the period that followed, Afghanistan and Pakistan exchanged mutual allegations of cross-border incursions. On 28 May, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan summoned the Ambassador of Pakistan to express strong objections to shelling in Kunar and Nuristan provinces and to the construction of military installations on what it claims is Afghan territory. On 31 May and 4 June, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan stated that insurgent groups based in Afghanistan had mounted attacks on checkpoints it claims were within Pakistan, and that three of its soldiers had been killed in the incidents. The Afghan authorities, in turn, stated that the Pakistani response to the incident of 31 May had included helicopter strikes inside Afghanistan that had resulted in civilian casualties. In protest, Afghanistan boycotted a regional security summit scheduled to take place in Islamabad on 4 June.

28. On the sidelines of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia, President Karzai met with his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, on 19 May. President Jinping hailed the smooth conduct of the first round of elections and, in looking to increase stability and economic self-reliance in the future, encouraged international investment in Afghanistan. President Karzai highlighted the common threat posed by terrorism and fundamentalism. In my meeting with President Karzai in Shanghai, I welcomed the continued progress in the electoral process and extended condolences on the recent flooding and landslides. On 26 May, President Karzai attended the swearing-in ceremony in New Delhi of the new Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, and had a bilateral meeting, during which development and the threat of terrorism were discussed. On 30 and 31 May, the new Foreign Secretary of India, Sujatha Singh, visited Kabul and Herat, meeting with President Karzai and the two presidential candidates. Ms. Singh reiterated her Government's resolve to reopen its consulate in Herat following the attack of 24 May.

29. During the reporting period, activities and technical meetings took place with a view to making progress on three of the confidence-building measures identified in the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan: a counter-improvised explosive device workshop, held in Kabul on

8 and 9 March, under the counter-terrorism confidence-building measure; an international conference on sharing experiences and developing a regional picture on hazards and risks for joint action plans, held in Islamabad on 12 and 13 May, under the disaster management confidence-building measure, followed by a regional technical group meeting; and a regional technical group meeting on trade, commerce and investment opportunities, held in New Delhi on 15 May, under the trade facilitation confidence-building measure, at which an action plan for 2014-2015 was developed. Preparations continued for the fourth Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference, to be held in China in August 2014.

30. The International Contact Group on Afghanistan and Pakistan held a meeting in Tokyo on 15 May. Discussions focused on the status of the 2014 elections, arrangements for the upcoming Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework ministerial review meeting, to be held in London in late 2014, and continuing international support for Afghan security forces.

III. Human rights

31. As at 31 May, UNAMA had documented 1,143 civilians killed and 2,214 injured by armed conflict in Afghanistan in 2014. This represents an increase in civilian casualties of 11 per cent compared with the same period in 2013. UNAMA attributed 78 per cent of those casualties to anti-government elements and 8 per cent to pro-government forces. Another 8 per cent of the casualties were due to unattributed crossfire during ground engagements between the parties to the conflict and 6 per cent were undetermined, resulting mostly from explosive remnants of war. Among the casualties were 79 civilian deaths and 219 civilian injuries caused by anti-government elements targeting election workers, polling centres, voters, electoral convoys and compounds between 1 January and 31 May. UNAMA also documented 122 instances of anti-government elements carrying out serious acts of intimidation against civilians, including threats of death or of cutting off fingers (inked as proof of voting) — although to date there is no evidence that these were carried through. On 5 April, UNAMA documented 33 civilian deaths and 126 injuries, mostly from attacks by anti-government elements at or near polling sites.

32. Improvised explosive devices remained the main cause of civilian casualties. They accounted for 32 per cent of the total and resulted in 331 civilians killed and 734 injured between 1 January and 31 May, an increase of 3 per cent over 2013. Of those casualties, 50 per cent occurred in the southern provinces of Helmand and Kandahar. Remote-controlled devices accounted for 38 per cent of civilian casualties from improvised explosive devices, down 10 per cent from 2013. The proportion of civilian casualties from pressure-plate (or victim-operated) improvised explosive devices, however, increased by 44 per cent compared with the same period in 2013. The casualties included 12 civilians who were killed, in Ghazni Province on 31 May, while travelling to a wedding party in two minivans that hit such devices planted in the road; most of the fatalities were women and children. For the first time, the number of civilian casualties caused by ground engagements was almost on par with the number of civilian casualties caused by improvised explosive devices: 310 civilians were killed and 752 were injured between 1 January and 31 May, an increase of 39 per cent in casualties caused by ground engagements compared with the same period in 2013. UNAMA also documented an increase of

20 per cent in female civilian casualties, with 102 women killed and 189 injured in the first five months of the year.

33. The Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting on Children and Armed Conflict continued to receive reports of incidents of grave violations of children's rights. Between 1 February and 30 April, 123 children were killed and a further 301 were injured by armed conflict in Afghanistan; 88 of the incidents occurred in the southern region. Improvised explosive devices were the leading cause of child casualties, responsible for 42 deaths and 82 injuries. Unexploded ordnance, explosive remnants of war and landmines claimed the lives of a further 27 children and injured another 46. Other grave violations of children's rights recorded included: 11 attacks against locations providing health-care services, 83 incidents of attacks against schools and education personnel, 6 incidents of underage recruitment by anti-government elements and Afghan local police, 2 incidents of sexual abuse within the Afghan security forces, 3 incidents of abduction by anti-government elements and 17 incidents of denial of humanitarian access by the Afghan Local Police and the Taliban and other anti-government elements.

34. On 24 April, the Government of Afghanistan submitted to the United Nations its third report on the implementation of the children and armed conflict action plan. The report highlighted progress in 2013 to prevent underage recruitment and included annexes reporting on killing, maiming and sexual violence against children. Activities included a number of training workshops and seminars and the identification and removal of 16 underage persons from service in provincial police headquarters in 2013. In seeking to no longer have Afghanistan included in my annual report on children and armed conflict, a road map to enhance implementation of the action plan has been developed through consultation between the Government and the United Nations, but awaits final endorsement. On 12 May, after several round-table discussions with Islamic scholars and legal experts, UNAMA launched a booklet entitled "Protecting Afghanistan's children in armed conflict", which focuses on six grave violations of child rights. Designed as an advocacy tool, the booklet is based on national and international law and on fundamental tenets of Islam.

35. The new Criminal Procedure Code was published on 5 May and came into effect on 5 June. On 17 May, the Wolesi Jirga ratified the President's legislative decree, whereby article 26 of the Code was amended to reinstate previous legal provisions enabling women to continue to testify against relatives, thereby facilitating the prosecution of suspects in cases of domestic violence. Other provisions in the new Code, including the mandatory presence of a defence lawyer during investigations and proceedings in felony cases and the right to challenge the extension of pretrial detention before a court, strengthen legal protections for detainees. Despite improvements, concerns remain that permitting persons to be detained for up to 18 days before being brought before a judge is a contravention of international obligations. UNAMA and other United Nations entities continued to support efforts to distribute the new Code to justice institutions throughout the country.

36. UNAMA continued to visit Afghan-run detention facilities to observe the treatment of persons detained for their involvement in conflict. During the reporting period, UNAMA visited 20 places of detention, in 10 provinces, run by the National Directorate of Security, the Afghan National Police, the Central Prisons Directorate and the Afghan National Army.

IV. Implementation of the Kabul process and coordination of development assistance

37. In ensuring continued progress against the benchmarks established in the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework in a period dominated by electoral competition and awaiting political transition, the Government and international donors focused on technical deliverables. On 10 May, the Minister of Finance hosted a gathering of members of parliament and representatives of the international community, relevant ministries, civil society and the private sector to highlight progress made by the Government on its Framework commitments. Achievements set forth by the Minister included: promoting implementation of the law on the elimination of violence against women with the release by the Ministry of Women's Affairs of its baseline report on 8 March; the Wolesi Jirga's endorsement of the laws on minerals and value-added tax on 3 May; and the introduction to the National Assembly of the laws relating to anti-money-laundering and combating the financing of terrorism on 24 May and the law on tax administration on 29 May. The law on value-added tax was later passed by the upper house (Meshrano Jirga) on 3 June. Discussion on the laws on minerals and money-laundering is expected to continue, however, with a number of concerns still to be addressed in ensuring compliance by Afghanistan with international obligations.

38. The economic situation of Afghanistan remains of concern. Economic outlooks released in April by both the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank indicated declining growth, largely because of consumer and investor uncertainty, which is due to the political and security transitions and is further compounded by rising security expenditure and declining revenue. The World Bank projected that the economy would grow by 3.2 per cent in 2014, against an estimated growth of 3.6 per cent in 2013 and of 14.4 per cent in 2012. Lower-than-expected government revenue collection is seen to be the result of weak enforcement by tax and customs administrations. A report by the International Monetary Fund released on 16 May reached the same conclusions and highlighted the Treasury's tight cash situation. The need for the Government to reduce expenditure, increase revenue collection, strengthen tax and customs enforcement and enact a sound financial regulatory framework was emphasized. The impact of such reduced economic activity and revenue has meant that government commitments to development activities at a provincial level are currently suspended.

39. On 6 May, the Government endorsed in principle the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for 2015-2019, which, it recognized, was aligned with government programmes and development plans. A stronger focus on infrastructure and job creation was requested, and it is understood that the incoming administration may revisit the document. The Framework supports key areas of the Afghan development agenda focused on the licit economy, basic services, social equity, the rule of law and governance.

V. Humanitarian assistance

40. A series of emergencies in northern Afghanistan, the result of heavy seasonal rains and above-average snow-melt, again highlighted the chronic vulnerabilities to natural disasters of what remains one of the world's poorest countries. On 2 May,

significant landslides in Badakhshan Province killed an unconfirmed number of people. Altogether, the floods and landslides that occurred in 132 districts throughout May were estimated to have affected 150,000 people and damaged and destroyed 16,471 homes. On 6 June, more large flash floods hit Baghlan and initial reports indicate a significant loss of life and the destruction of hundreds of homes. The provinces of Jawzjan, Saripul, Faryab, Balkh and Baghlan were the most severely affected. Contingency planning meant that provisions were pre-positioned based on the flooding patterns of 2013, which had affected 204,000 people and damaged and destroyed 22,000 homes. Relief stocks proved sufficient, with the major constraints being physical access where infrastructure was damaged and security challenges in contested areas.

41. On 5 and 6 May, my Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs visited Kabul and Badakhshan Province. She called for continuing support to vulnerable communities affected by conflict and natural disasters and warned that any significant reduction in aid during the transition period could be devastating. As at 31 May, overall humanitarian funding received in Afghanistan, including by the Red Cross and Red Crescent family of organizations, reached $244 million for 2014. Humanitarian funding aligned with the United Nations strategic response plan stood at 40 per cent of the appeal requirement. The first standard allocation of $20 million of the newly established common humanitarian fund was finalized in May with priority interventions aimed at providing up to 800,000 Afghans with access to essential health services and at addressing the needs of up to 400,000 severely malnourished children, mainly in southern and south-eastern Afghanistan.

42. On 26 March, the Internally Displaced Persons Task Force, co-chaired by the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation and the United Nations, approved a road map for the implementation of the national policy on internally displaced persons. Between 1 February and 30 April, the Task Force recorded 6,779 displacements owing to conflict, most of which in Faryab, Balkh, Farah, Ghor, Kabul, Nangarhar, Kapisa and Badghis provinces. This brings the national total to some 660,000 persons internally displaced owing to conflict. On 30 April, a portfolio of projects proposed under the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries was launched in Pakistan by the Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Ranging from emergency assistance to long-term development interventions, the projects aim to foster the sustainable return and reintegration of refugees to Afghanistan. The project to renew proof-of-registration cards, which was launched in February, will continue until 30 December 2015. Around 75 per cent of the 1.6 million refugees registered in Pakistan completed the process by the end of May. Between 1 February and 30 April, 3,535 refugees voluntarily repatriated to Afghanistan with the assistance of the United Nations, of whom 2,061 were from Pakistan, 1,429 were from the Islamic Republic of Iran and 45 were from India. This represented a decrease of 64 per cent compared with the same period in 2013.

43. Humanitarian access constraints continue to be recorded under the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' global monitoring framework. Key areas of concern remain attacks against personnel, assets and facilities and the violation of health facilities. As at 30 April, 82 incidents of violence against personnel, assets and facilities were recorded in 2014, resulting in 22 deaths, 11 injuries, 83 abductions and attempted abductions, and the arrest and detention of five aid workers. Between

1 January and 30 April, 36 incidents affected health facilities and assets, the majority in the eastern and central provinces. Prior to the first round of elections, intense advocacy by the humanitarian community emphasized the obligation to not target civilians and civilian facilities, including health clinics and schools designated for use as polling centres. On election day, 2 of 173 health clinics and 45 of the 3,546 educational facilities designated as polling locations were affected by election-related violence. This represents a two-thirds reduction in the number of incidents compared with 2009.

44. As at 31 May, Afghanistan reported four cases of polio, all in the east of the country, reinforcing the importance of cross-border cooperation and coordination in combating the virus, including in terms of synchronizing polio vaccination campaigns with Pakistan. In general, personnel working on polio programmes have continued to have access to insecure areas, but the uncertainty of the electoral period has had an adverse impact on campaigns in some locations.

45. During the reporting period, 10 battlefields and 144 minefields were cleared by the mine action sector, supported by the United Nations, and an additional six districts were declared mine-free. In March and April, a total of 57 casualties related to mines and unexploded ordinance were recorded; 16 of these were in or around international military firing ranges or former bases. The United Nations continued to work with ISAF to help ensure that premises being closed or transferred are cleared of unexploded ordnance. To date, 81 km^2 of firing range have been cleared and 33,000 explosive items and almost 13,000 items of small arms ammunition have been destroyed. March marked the end of the first year of the 10-year workplan to remove all hazards from Afghanistan by 2023; during that first year, 87.2 km^2 of land were cleared. It is estimated that 4,081 minefields and 218 battlefields, affecting 1,609 communities in 33 provinces, remain to be cleared.

VI. Counter-narcotics

46. Between 1 March and 31 May, the Counter-Narcotics Police of Afghanistan conducted 678 operations that resulted in 583 arrests, the dismantling of 6 illicit heroin laboratories and the seizure of 22,646 kg of precursor chemicals, 7,911 kg of opium, 4,840 kg of cannabis, 423 kg of heroin and 1.2 kg of methamphetamines. Four police officers were killed and seven wounded in the line of duty. Efforts to prevent trafficking through Kabul International Airport are being strengthened through mentorship and training activities supported by the United Nations. As a result, 17 kg of heroin were intercepted there between 1 March and 31 May. Similar efforts will be required in Herat, Kandahar and Mazar-i-Sharif international airports.

47. As at 27 May, 1,473 ha of land under opium poppy cultivation had been eradicated in 13 provinces, according to data verified by the Ministry of Counter-Narcotics together with the United Nations. Helmand Province accounted for 901 ha of such land, with figures in other provinces being: 22 ha in Uruzgan; 94 ha in Kandahar; 75 ha in Kunar; 43 ha in Nangarhar; 40 ha in Badakhshan; 36 ha in Balkh; 24 ha in Kapisa; 12 ha in Zabul; 10 ha in Faryab; 9 ha in Kunduz; 6 ha in Daikundai; and 1 ha in Laghman. These efforts resulted in 13 deaths (eight police, three army and two farmers). The area eradicated was significantly smaller than the 4,724 ha cleared in the same period in 2013. On 27 May, representatives of four ministries and the Chair of the Afghan Red Crescent Society appeared before the

Meshrano Jirga to address senators' rising concerns at the low level of eradication this season. It was stated that efforts had been very limited owing to the demands on Afghan security forces around the elections.

48. On 18 March, the third steering committee meeting of the regional programme for Afghanistan and countries in the region was held in Vienna on the margins of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The eight countries concerned (Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) attended, as well as donors. The progress made during 2013 in the four subprogrammes (regional cooperation in law enforcement, criminal justice, demand reduction and research advocacy) was noted. At the same time, ministerial review meetings for the Afghanistan-Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan Initiative and the Triangular Initiative, involving Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan, were also held to further strengthen on-the-ground collaboration throughout the region. The meeting on the Triangular Initiative concluded with the signing of a formal joint ministerial statement focused on enhancing cooperation in the areas of drugs control and border management. On 29 May, the fourth Afghanistan-Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan Initiative meeting of senior officials was held in Dushanbe; the ministerial meeting was held on the following day. A declaration on counter-narcotics cooperation was adopted following discussions emphasizing better cooperation between law enforcement and judicial bodies.

VII. Mission support

49. UNAMA undertook a series of operational and contingency-planning exercises prior to the elections to review the broader business continuity, crisis management and security plans in accordance with the Organization's overall guidance. UNAMA also provided support to ELECT II by contracting two helicopters to provide logistical support throughout the electoral period. The roll-out of Umoja, the "go live" date for which was 1 March, was successfully managed. Training and capacity-building activities for staff using the system continued in close consultation with the Kuwait Joint Support Office.

50. With the support of the Office of the United Nations Controller in New York, UNAMA will prepare an interim budget for the first half of 2015, based on existing resource levels, to allow enough time for a revised budget for 2015 to be finalized by the end of 2014. Overall, as at 31 May, UNAMA had 1,496 personnel (and a 7 per cent vacancy rate), comprising 340 international and 1,156 national staff. In addition, there were 60 United Nations Volunteers, 15 military advisers and 2 police advisers.

VIII. Observations

51. The present report is issued amid landmark elections in Afghanistan. To date, the political engagement demonstrated by the candidates and the electorate, together with the efforts of electoral and security bodies, has been impressive, reinforcing national and international confidence in the future of Afghanistan. A political transition resulting from an outcome accepted by the candidates and the electorate would provide a solid mandate for a new leadership to tackle the country's many

political, economic and security challenges. I congratulate the people, electoral bodies and security institutions on progress to date. The process — full of challenges — is by no means over and, as long as risks remain, the United Nations shall be actively seized of the matter. In my recent meeting with President Karzai, I welcomed his continued support for a smooth and timely transition.

52. The first round of voting on 5 April saw enthusiastic popular participation by both men and women across the country despite the poor weather conditions and the threats of violence. It stands as a testament to the determination of Afghans to exercise their right to vote and shape their country's future. In what has been a truly Afghan-led, Afghan-managed process, technical planning and preparations were better than in previous elections. This is not to say that they were perfect. The electoral institutions — the Independent Election Commission and the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission — were established, for the first time under agreed legislation, and are new and still maturing. The two presidential candidates rightly demanded improvements before the second round. While there was progress, flaws undoubtedly remained. We must however be clear on the necessary outcome: a credible process and result that is accepted by the candidates and the Afghan people. We should also not forget the provincial council elections, which are an important element of ensuring local representation and accountability.

53. My Special Representative for Afghanistan continues to meet with all stakeholders in support of the inclusiveness and integrity of the process. Electoral management bodies have been urged to ensure transparency in their decision-making and conduct so as to reassure the Afghan people that their valid votes will count. Accountability, together with clear and timely communication with the public, observers and the campaigns, remains vital throughout the process, including the tallying and adjudication of the results in this decisive election. The two presidential candidates, both well-known and respected national figures, also bear heavy responsibilities. They must disavow fraud by their supporters and respect the authorities of the electoral management bodies. Once electoral complaints have been adjudicated in accordance with the law, I urge the candidates and their supporters to accept the outcome. At this critical juncture for Afghanistan, the need is for statesmanship, not gamesmanship. In the post-election period, whoever the winner is, the need is for an inclusive administration drawing on the country's many diverse elements to best ensure national unity and stability.

54. Little progress has been possible in this time of uncertainty in establishing formal dialogue between the Government and the main armed opposition groups. It is clear that there are splits within the Taliban movement, with some of the more hard-line elements continuing to hold the grave misperception that there can be victory on the battlefield. Efforts to achieve peace have, nonetheless, continued at the community level, where complex and often long-standing cycles of violence require multi-tiered approaches. Left to fester, local grievances and disputes — including over access to resources — can further provide insurgents with opportunities to make gains. I welcome United Nations-supported community efforts to resolve the long-running conflict in Nuristan. I hope that the agreement will provide the foundations for a more peaceful future for these communities and set a wider example in Afghanistan. I also welcome the launch of the most recent report on the Afghan People's Dialogue for Peace, a civil society initiative that is an inspiring example of inclusive, rights-based peacebuilding by ordinary Afghan men and women. The elections were a further demonstration of the Afghan people's commitment to the

political process and a rejection of continued conflict and violence. On the campaign trail, candidates made pledges to work for peace, and I urge the new leader to seek to build and strengthen Afghan-led, Afghan-owned channels of dialogue. The United Nations is ready to provide support.

55. In the meantime, civilians continue to bear the brunt of the conflict, as they are increasingly caught in the crossfire between Afghan forces and anti-government elements, with women and children taking a particularly heavy toll. The Taliban's stated aim of targeting the elections — a civilian process — was of grave concern. Overall, the vast majority of civilian casualties continued to be at the hands of anti-government elements. I am particularly concerned at the rise in victim-activated improvised explosive devices. Ending the use of these indiscriminate weapons has been the subject of ongoing advocacy by the United Nations in Afghanistan, and last year's decrease was widely welcomed. Civilian targets and indiscriminate tactics breach the norms of war and the fundamental tenets of Islam and undermine the claims to legitimacy that such groups make. I underline again the obligations of the parties to distinguish between civilians and combatants.

56. Among the priorities facing the country's new leader will be a decision on legal frameworks for the United States and NATO troops' presence after 2014. Both presidential candidates have stated their intention to sign such frameworks to allow the smooth planning and implementation of the follow-on training and assistance mission in support of Afghan institutions. In planning and implementing operations around elections, Afghan security forces have been courageous and increasingly confident, including in terms of placing an emphasis on protecting women so that they too can participate. These efforts have helped bolster institutional morale and popular confidence in the capabilities of national security institutions, which have held their ground amid the international military drawdown.

57. To Member States, I emphasize that even as the physical presence of their troops decreases, obligations to provide security and development assistance must be met in ways that are predictable and reinforce Afghan systems. There must not be a perception that the Afghan people are being abandoned. The very heart of the transition is the principle of Afghan leadership with international support through the decade of transformation. Mutual commitments made at the NATO Chicago summit and at the Tokyo conference must be kept. The NATO summit in September and the London ministerial-level development conference planned for November provide important opportunities to reiterate and reinforce mutual commitments with the new Government of Afghanistan.

58. Continuity of support must not, however, mean business as usual. The economic situation of Afghanistan is of grave concern and requires the urgent attention of the new administration. There must be real commitment to economic reform, the rule of law and good governance — including combating corruption — together with accelerated progress on a rights-based agenda, notably sustaining and strengthening women's rights. Hard decisions and rapid, robust action is required to increase government revenue and ensure jobs-based growth. This includes expediting an agreement on a sound regulatory framework that encourages investor confidence and is compliant with international obligations. Increasing outreach and consultation with the private sector and civil society is required to help ensure inclusive growth. Growing dependence on the illicit economy is a threat to the economic and institutional stability not just of Afghanistan but of the wider region, fuelling

corruption and funding for terrorists. Addressing the threat posed by narcotics requires genuine commitment to tackling entrenched interests and the lack of tangible results to date is of great concern.

59. Economically, the interconnections between Afghanistan and other countries in the region will grow and should contribute to progress on shared interests and wider stability. The CASA-1000 electricity project is an example of the potential and possibilities in regional energy connectivity and trade through Afghanistan. I welcome the World Bank's approval of funding and encourage other countries and institutions to step in to help address the funding gap. Progress in the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan, seen in a number of the confidence-building measures during the reporting period, will however require active and constructive engagement in ensuring continued momentum before and after the ministerial conference to be held in China in August.

60. Humanitarian needs in Afghanistan are likely to rise given chronic poverty and continuing insecurity. A particular focus is required on emergency health needs, including trauma care and childhood malnutrition. Afghanistan remains prone to recurrent sudden and slow-onset natural disasters. The northern provinces in particular have been the subject of recurring relief interventions over recent years, with flooding once again this spring having a devastating impact on vulnerable populations, infrastructure and livelihoods. As this relief effort switches to rehabilitation and reconstruction, there is an important opportunity to afford greater priority to disaster risk management and risk reduction. This includes greater surveillance of risk and the related issues of land allocation and restitution. The Government's recently endorsed policy on internally displaced persons provides useful practical guidance and tools to support a more calibrated approach to disaster risk management.

61. I would like to express my gratitude to all national and international staff members of UNAMA and to my Special Representative, Ján Kubiš, for their continued dedication, often under challenging conditions, to fulfilling our commitments in support of the people of Afghanistan.